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# South and East Asia Report

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12 November 1980

## SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

No. 939

## CONTENTS

## INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

Reports of Planned Philippines-MNLF Meeting in Jakarta (KOMPAS, 2, 3 Sep 80, HARIAN UMUM AB, 3 Sep 80) .....	1
No Knowledge of Meeting	
Political Move	
Meeting Postponed	

## BANGLADESH

Minister Reports 'Highest Ever' Foodgrain Stock (THE BANGLADESH TIMES, 5 Oct 80) .....	3
Opposition Opposes National Day Decision (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 6 Oct 80) .....	5
Trade Pact With India Sets 'Healthy Tone' (Editorial Report) .....	7
Press Conference on Indian Trade Talks Reported (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 6 Oct 80) .....	8
Press Gives Details of Trade Talks With India (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 4, 5 Oct 80) .....	10
Dacca Meeting Opens	
Trade Agreement Signed	
Chamber of Commerce Reception	
Muslim League Leader Urges End to Iran-Iraq War (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 5 Oct 80) .....	15
Journalists Union Holds Third Annual Conference (THE BANGLADESH TIMES, 5 Oct 80) .....	16
Official Study Deplores Ganges Diversion Results (THE BANGLADESH TIMES, 5 Oct 80) .....	17

Mass Literacy Program Deemed Imperative (Editorial Report) .....	19
Briefs	
Atomic Energy Commission Strike .....	21
BURMA	
Naga Faction Supporters Reported Killed in Burma (THE STATESMAN, 9 Oct 80) .....	22
INDIA	
Gandhi Denies Pro-Soviet Tilt in Foreign Policy (Sudhin Dey; THE STATESMAN, 4 Oct 80) .....	23
Gandhi Asserts Supremacy of Parliament (PATRIOT, 9 Oct 80) .....	24
Works Minister Reports on Middle East Visit (PATRIOT, 8 Oct 80) .....	26
Finance Minister Talks to Press on IMF Parley (THE STATESMAN, 9 Oct 80) .....	28
Commerce Minister, MP's Discuss Jute Surplus (PATRIOT, 7 Aug 80) .....	29
'National Alternative' Parley Planned for 1981 (PATRIOT, 4 Oct 80) .....	31
Center Wars Against Preventive Detention Misuse (PATRIOT, 9 Oct 80) .....	32
Shipping Ministry Plans Expansion of Ports (PATRIOT, 7 Oct 80) .....	33
CPI(M) Delegation to North Korean Congress (PATRIOT, 7 Oct 80) .....	34
CPI(M) Resolution Greet Chinese Communists (THE STATESMAN, 4 Oct 80) .....	35
India May Take Up Duties Issue After U.S. Polls (THE STATESMAN, 4 Oct 80) .....	36
Janata General Secretary Talks to Press (THE STATESMAN, 8 Oct 80) .....	37
Soviets Assure Crude Oil Supply for 1981 (THE STATESMAN, 4 Oct 80) .....	39



PRC Interest in Normalization Feared Waning (G. K. Reddy; THE HINDU, 9 Oct 80) .....	41
Dangers of Kashmir Militant Groups Noted (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 9 Aug 80) .....	43
Aviation Minister Describes Air Service Plans (PATRIOT, 7 Oct 80) .....	45
Awards Given at Air Force Day Parade (PATRIOT, 9 Oct 80) .....	47
Writer Described Role of Air Force in Northeast (THE HINDU, 8 Oct 80) .....	49
Delhi Asks Special Drive on Illegal Arms (THE STATESMAN, 4 Oct 80) .....	51
Reporter Details Godavari Drilling Efforts (THE HINDU, 6 Oct 80) .....	52
Correspondent Notes Changing Defense Needs (G. K. Reddy; THE HINDU, 6 Oct 80) .....	54
Armed Forces Cadre Structure To Be Upgraded (G. K. Reddy; THE HINDU, 8 Oct 80) .....	56
Indigenous Manufacture of Solar Pumps Promoted (PATRIOT, 7 Aug 80) .....	59
Power Chief Discusses Plans, Projects (THE HINDU, 10 Oct 80) .....	60
Power Production in Northeast Gets Priority (THE HINDU, 8 Oct 80) .....	62
More Super Thermal Power Stations Planned (THE STATESMAN, 9 Oct 80) .....	64
Research Labs Revert to Scientific Council (THE HINDU, 8 Oct 80) .....	65
Investments Reported Up in First Half of Year (K. K. Sharma; THE STATESMAN, 7 Oct 80) .....	66
Briefs	
Gujarat Oil Output	68
Greetings to KWP	68
Muslim Unity Talks	68
Haryana Byelections	68
Liquid Propulsion Center	69
Indians in Iraq	69
Missionary Withdrawals From Tribal Areas	69
Freedom Fighter Dies	69
Jharia Coal Project	69

## INDONESIA

Chalid, Usep Comment on Political Scene (KOMPAS, 3 Sep 80) .....	70
Air Force To Commission Combat Squadrons (HARIAN UMUM AB, 3 Sep 80, PELITA, 10 Sep 80) .....	72
Aircraft Procurement Trainers Arrive	
Poor Working Conditions at West Java Textile Plant (KOMPAS, 1, 2 Sep 80) .....	73
Workers Complain FBSI Task Force	
Production-Sharing Changes Favor Farmer (KOMPAS, 4 Sep 80) .....	77
Number Living Below the Poverty Level Drops (KOMPAS, 3 Sep 80) .....	81
Biographic Information on Indonesian Personalities .....	83
Briefs	
Smallpox Vaccinations Ended	87
Livestock Situation Is Critical	87

## PAKISTAN

Banks To Mark Up Imports Under Interest-Free Plan (BUSINESS RECORDER, 16 Oct 80) .....	89
Gas Becomes Main Source of Energy (KHYBER MAIL, 16 Oct 80) .....	90
New Wheat Prices May Slow Food Self-Sufficiency (THE MUSLIM, 19 Oct 80) .....	91
Cotton Output Likely To Exceed Target (BALUCHISTAN TIMES, 15 Oct 80) .....	93
Briefs	
FRG Aid to Railway	94

## PHILIPPINES

Small Farmers Urged To Sue Carabao as Energy Saving Measure (PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 23 Oct 80) .....	95
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REPORTS OF PLANNED PHILIPPINES-MNLF MEETING IN JAKARTA

No Knowledge of Meeting

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 Sep 80 p 1

[Text] Neither the Indonesian Department of Foreign Affairs nor the Philippine Embassy in Jakarta knew anything by Monday about a reported plan for a meeting between delegations of the Philippine Government and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) scheduled for 5-6 September in Jakarta. "Not that we know of," said Fructuoso Calagui, second secretary of the Philippine Embassy, in response to this newspaper's question yesterday morning.

He explained that the plan for the meeting of the two delegations has not been ascertained. In the meantime, an Indonesian Foreign Office source told this newspaper that no report of such a meeting in Jakarta has been received.

Alaydrus, the foreign affairs information director of the Foreign Office, surmised that the report was connected with the Congress of World Islam Mass Media currently in progress in Jakarta. After checking, however, it turned out that neither the Philippine Government nor the MNLF has sent a delegate to this congress, Alaydrus added.

ASSOCIATED PRESS reported from Manila last Saturday, President Ferdinand Marcos had stated that negotiations to end the separatist movement of the Maros in the southern Philippines would be reopened on 5-6 September in Jakarta. The Philippine Government delegation, comprising several Moslem officials in the southern Philippines, would meet with the MNLF delegation headed by Nur Misuari, said President Marcos.

Political Move

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 3 Sep 80 pp 1, 7

[Excerpts] The Philippine government has not submitted a request to make Indonesia as the venue for the meeting between delegations of the Moro National Liberation Front and the government of President Ferdinand Marcos, M. Panggabean told the press Tuesday.

Panggabean divulged, however, that "of course other ASEAN member countries are prepared to act as hosts for this meeting."

Panggabean added that no request concerning this meeting has been received until now. Assuming that President Soeharto and Prime Minister Husein Onn made this commitment the other day, Indonesia or perhaps Kuala Lumpur would be ready to host the meeting.

"That's as far as I know--and nothing else," Panggabean stated.

According to diplomatic sources, Marcos's said statement was merely a political move related to the Congress of World Islam Mass Media in Jakarta, so the Islamic world would know that the Marcos administration does want to solve the South Philippines problem.

#### Meeting Postponed

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 3 Sep 80 p 12

[Excerpts] President Marcos stated yesterday that the Jakarta conference concerning the problem of Moros' separatist movement, originally scheduled for 5-6 September, "would be postponed for another month or two."

Marcos made this statement when he received a leader of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), Jamil Lucman, who had surrendered himself, at the Malacanang presidential palace yesterday.

9300

CSO: 4213

MINISTER REPORTS 'HIGHEST EVER' FOODGRAIN STOCK

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 5 Oct 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Government has built up "the highest ever foodgrains stock" at 11.5 lakh tons at the end of the current financial year. Food Minister Mr Abdul Momen Khan said in Dacca on Saturday.

Talking to the Times the Minister said that the Government was not prepared to face any situation except those thrown up by unforeseen calamities. While pointing out this achievement, the Minister underlined the two serious natural calamities through which the country passed--the drought and the floods. "But we have been able to face both situation from our own resources", he said.

Speaking on the food situation for 1980-81, the Minister said the government had already imported 650 lakh tons while another quantity of 7 lakh tons are in the pipeline.

The government had imported 27.8 lakh tons of foodgrains in 1979-80.

The Minister said there is, therefore, no need for any apprehension or speculation on food front.

Mr. Khan said that the estimated requirement of foodgrains for current year was 14.89 million tons as against the production of 14.89 million tons. After deduction of 10 percent seed, feed and wastage net availability of 13.32 million tons which will leave a food gap of 1.57 million tons for 1980-81.

Asked if he calculated the damage to crops by recent flood the Minister said the estimate was made before the floods struck. But he did not foresee any major change in estimate. In fact there is likely to be no change he said while explaining the programme the government had already taken up to recoup the loss through cultivation of boro and wheat.

Asked on the proposed sale of rice next year, the Minister denied his Ministry having made such disclosures. 'We have made no such projection for next year' he said. However, he said Bangladesh planned to export during the Second Five-Year Plan he said a higher target has been fixed with expectation that a sizeable quantity would be exported.

However, he said exports was not dependent on surplus on rice as many deficit countries like India and Pakistan export rice to buy other kind of foodgrain- Bangladesh might export to buy other kind of foodgrains in large quantity. The Food Ministry is now considering various aspects of the export issue. However it is closely linked with production of foodgrains in the country.

The Minister said government was facing serious shortage of storage facilities because of large imports and internal procurement. The Government has taken up a crash programme to build up storage facilities for foodgrains. Under the scheme the government is acquiring all government structures which are not in use now as godowns along with accelerated construction of godowns. He hoped the crisis would be met.

Asked if the government contemplated to do away with statutory rationing system, he said it was still there but the public distribution system is constantly under review. Changes may be made whenever necessary. He said statutory covered about 15 per cent of the population.

The Minister said that the people were gradually taking to the consumption of wheat though our people are traditionally rice eaters. He said the trend was expected to reduce pressure on rice. And they do not seem to be resisting.

Speaking on internal procurement, he said the targets were exceeded. About 2.10 lakh tons of boro rice was procured against the target of 2 lakh. Similarly over 38,000 tons of aus was procured as against the target of 10,000 tons. The wheat procurement was the largest being 1.49 lakh tons. Procurement of aus was going on.

CSO: 4220

## OPPOSITION OPPOSES NATIONAL DAY DECISION

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 6 Oct 80 p 12

[Text] The Leader of the Opposition Mr Asaduzzaman Khan, MP in a statement on Sunday protested the government decision declaring the Independence Day as "National Day," reports BSS.

Mr Khan described the decision as an effort to distort the history of the struggle for independence and liberation of the country by the present government.

The Leader of the Opposition said he has no language to protest the efforts to distort the struggle for national liberation, independence and sovereignty.

He said, "The whole world knows that the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had announced the independence of Bangladesh just before he was arrested by the occupation army of Pakistan on the night of March 26 of 1971."

The independence of Bangladesh, Mr Khan said, was earned at the cost of blood of 30 lakh Bangalees and the honour and dignity of two lakh mothers and sisters.

He said that it was the announcement of March 26 which made in victory of December 16 of 1971 possible. 'And that is why March 26 is our dear Independence Day' Mr Khan added.

The Leader of the Opposition alleged that the present government is engaged in completely wiping out the values, achievements and the basic objectives of the struggle for independence and liberation under the master plan of the killing of August 15.

He said they had already sacrificed the four state principles established through the liberation struggle.

Mr Asaduzzaman Khan called upon the government to "desist itself from the conspiracy against national independence and sovereignty."

He also described the government as anti-independence and subservient to imperialism.



AL (Malek)

Our Staff Correspondent adds: Bangladesh Awami League (Malek) on Sunday condemned the declaration of March 26 as National Day instead of Independence Day.

In a resolution adopted at a meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the party held on the day under the chairmanship of party President Mr. Abdul Malek Ukil, it said that March 26 had so far been observed as the Independence Day in a befitting manner.

The meeting termed the step of the government as a naked attack on the independence of Bangladesh. Bangladesh Awami League will not accept such a conspiratorial decision and urged the people to resist it.

AL (Mizan)

Mr. Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury and Prof. Yusuf Ali, President and General Secretary respectively of the Bangladesh Awami League (Mizan) in a joint statement issued on Sunday termed the decision of the government to declare March 26 as National Day as a betrayal to the independence struggle. They also termed it as a conspiracy to uphold the interest of the enemies of independence.

NAP (M)

Another BSS message says: The National Working Committee of NAP (Muzafar) [as printed] in a meeting took resolutions protesting the government decision to change the Independence Day into National Day.

A NAP (M) Press release said the party could not understand why the government had taken the decision to destroy the significance of the Independence Day.

The party described the government decision as a deadly blow at the very basis of the struggle for national independence and as a conspiracy to destroy the glory of the independence struggle.

The party demanded the restoration of March 26 as Independence Day.

CSO: 4220



# TRADE PACT WITH INDIA SETS 'HEALTHY TONE'

[Editorial Report] Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 7 Oct 80 p 5. The three-year trade agreement signed between Bangladesh and India on Saturday though a general-type accord has something more to it in the sense that the two neighbours have declared their intentions to remove the current imbalance in the trade between them. Bangladesh can justifiably ask for narrowing the large gap in the balance of trade between the two countries but at the same time possibly we can't, at this stage expect to wipe it off totally because industrially advanced India has more exportables to offer. However, the desire reflected in the talks between the Indian Minister for Commerce and his Bangladesh counterpart to correct the position by exploring all the potentialities to increase the volume of exports from Bangladesh to India is noteworthy. Bangladesh has identified commodities like fertiliser, molasses, newsprint and non-traditional goods whose scope to sell in the Indian market is enormous. And considering the fact that the country's volume of trade with India in currency terms has risen from last year's Taka four crore level to Ta. 17 crore mark, so far, this year the situation is not all that depressing.

India and Bangladesh by according the most favoured nation treatment to each other, recognising the need for exploring all possibilities for expansion and promotion of mutually advantageous trade and by deciding to hold periodic consultations at government level to facilitate the implementation of the trade agreement have set a tone helpful to healthy cooperation. We feel, in this context, that implementing what have been agreed upon is most important and must be taken with all seriousness. To achieve this improvement of transport and the communication system between Bangladesh and India should get priority. The delays in fixing the price of exportables, placing orders and shipment which hampered trade in the past must be avoided and the private sector, it figures should be helped to play its due role.

Our Minister of State for Commerce has rightly pointed out in an interview with the Bangladesh Times that we should have no reservation in trading with our neighbours. Extensive contacts, in fact, are being made with them. These, we believe, will help find the major trading commodities that one can offer to the other having competitive quality and price, to locate what developmental effort should be made to fully exploit the market potentials and to instill a sense of collective interest in promoting or protecting commodities in which two or more countries of this region trade with the rest of the world. Vagaries of international trade and politics do make it advisable to look inward. And one can always be careful that one's prime interests are not in jeopardy.

PRESS CONFERENCE ON INDIAN TRADE TALKS REPORTED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 6 Oct 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukerjee, Indian Minister for Commerce, Steel and Mines, said in Dacca on Sunday that the Indo-Bangladesh bilateral trade talks had succeeded to identify some new products for boosting the exports of Bangladesh to India. He noted that the present volume of bilateral trade between the two countries had not been all that satisfactory and observed that India wanted to buy more goods from Bangladesh to remove the existing imbalances against the latter in her bilateral trade with the former.

Addressing a Press conference at the State Guest House prior to his departure for home at the end of a three-day visit to the country, the Indian Commerce Minister indicated that his country was ready to import fertiliser, wet-blue leather and molasses from Bangladesh. He said that concrete proposals from Bangladesh had been received in this connection and India had also agreed in principle to buy the afore-mentioned products. The details of the export sale deals are being worked out now, he added.

The Press conference was also addressed by Chowdhury Tanbir Ahmed Siddiky, Minister of State for Commerce. The Indian Secretary Ministry of Commerce, and the Bangladesh Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, assisted their respective Ministers.

Mr Pranab Kumar Mukerjee stated that Bangladesh had proposed to sell one lakh tons of fertiliser to India. Similarly proposals for export of wet-blue leather, tentatively projected in monetary value terms at Taka 40 crore, have been put forward by Bangladesh, he noted.

Replying to a question, he said that the bilateral trade in respect of fertiliser would be handled through the public sector agencies in the two countries. About wet-blue leather he noted that the State Trading Corporation in India and the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) would finalise the deal.

When asked about the price at which India would agree to buy fertiliser from Bangladesh, the Indian Commerce Minister said that the price would be fixed on the basis of negotiations. He stated that India had agreed to a Bangladesh proposal for making efforts to raise the quantum of export of wet-blue leather from Bangladesh from the earlier fixed level of Taka 25 crore to Taka 40 crore. But he felt that the interest of both buyers and sellers as much as the quality and price of the product were of fundamental importance in respect of the attainment of the target.

Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukerjee told the newsmen that he had discussed in concrete terms with the Government leaders in Dacca about the possibilities of joint venture projects in the field of cement and sponge iron plants in Bangladesh. The proposals for such joint venture projects were mooted and discussed on earlier occasions also, he noted.

He stated that the proposed cement factory at Chattak would be supplied limestone from Meghalaya in India. About the proposed joint venture project in the sponge iron manufacturing field, he said that an Indian consultant was not examining the details for this. Replying to a question, he observed that the proposed joint venture projects between the two countries are expected to come in the public sector.

Replying to a question about the need for reduction of tariff rates in India in matter of export of certain items like Jamdani saree from Bangladesh, the Indian Commerce Minister stated that the tariff rates in the two countries were decided keeping in view of their respective national interests.

The Indian Commerce Minister felt that his visit would further strengthen the existing friendly bilateral relationship between the two countries. He said that besides the signing of a new trade agreement, the two sides discussed many more areas of economic and commercial co-operation between the two countries so that "our efforts can become complementary to each other in the development process."

Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukerjee expressed his great satisfaction over the outcome of his visit while stating that his discussions with the Government leaders at all levels had been very useful and constructive.

Chowdhury Tanbir Ahmed Siddiky, Minister of State for Commerce, also reciprocated similar feelings of satisfaction over the outcome of the bilateral trade talks between the two countries. "Our sincerity and frankness to boost bilateral trade and expand economic cooperation to the mutual benefit of the two countries have been reflected in the outcome of the discussions," he observed.

The Minister of State stated that the two sides understood how better each other's viewpoint as a result of the bilateral talks held between them. He was of the view that the freight advantage in respect of bilateral trade between the two countries held out good prospects for expansion of their commercial and economic co-operation. He stated that an understanding about the export of wet-blue leather, fertiliser and a number of other products from Bangladesh to India on a long-term basis had been reached at the talks.

Chowdhury Tanbir Ahmed Siddiky said that the concrete proposals for joint venture projects in the field of cement, sponge iron, newsprint and paper mills had been discussed between the two sides during the visit of the Indian Commerce Minister. The necessary details in this connection are to be worked out now, he added.

The State Minister observed that the two sides had also agreed to exchange discussions and visits between India and Bangladesh at various levels. This, together with the improvement in telecommunication facilities, will facilitate the expansion of bilateral co-operation in economic and commercial fields between India and Bangladesh, he felt.

CSO: 4220

## PRESS GIVES DETAILS OF TRADE TALKS WITH INDIA

### Dacca Meeting Opens

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 4 Oct 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] Bangladesh and India will often Minister level talks in Dacca today (Saturday) to promote bilatera trade and economic cooperation, reports BSS.

The Indian Commerce, Steel and Mines Minister, Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, who arrived in Dacca on Friday evening at the head of a five-member delegation, will lead his country's side to the talks. The Bangladesh team will be led by Choudhury Tanbir Ahmed Siddiky, Minister of State for Commerce.

Officials sources indicated that the talks would cover all aspects of trade and economic cooperation within the framework of bilateral relations and international trade.

Emphasis will be laid on the identification of new Bangladeshi exportables to promote Indian Imports from Bangladesh to narrow down the existing imbalance, sources in the Ministry of Commerce said.

It is also learnt that the three-year trade agreement, which will be signed today to replace the 1973 trade agreement to cover bilateral trade transactions, will reiterate the mutual accord on "most favoured nation" treatment for access of commodities of one country in the other's markets on a reciprocal basis. Trade transactions between the two countries are made in free convertible currencies.

### Import From Dacca to Be Increased

Earlier, The Commerce, Steel and Mines Minister, Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, said in Dacca on Friday that his country would increase the volume of imports from Bangladesh by identifying new commodities.

Talking to newsmen at the airport on arrival in the evening on a three-day official visit to Bangladesh, the Indian Minister said that he would seek to identify the new commodities in course of his discussions with his counterpart and other government leaders.

In reply to a question, Mr. Mukherjee said that he was aware of the current adverse balance of trade against Bangladesh. It would be my effort to find out what more



commodities we could import from here, he said adding that he would seek suggestions from Bangladesh side on what more commodities they could offer for import by India. He said that India was also willing to increase the volume of import of existing items such as newsprint, writing papers, etc. from Bangladesh.

Mr. Mukherjee also spoke of "the close and friendly" relations existing between the two countries and said that it would be "our constant endeavour" to strengthen the friendship and cooperation by extending bilateral cooperation in many areas.

In reply to a question, he said that his talks with Government leaders in Bangladesh would cover areas like cooperation in joint venture, industrial and economic cooperation and sharing of technology and expertise which have been developed by the two countries.

The new three-year trade agreement, to be signed today, the Indian Commerce Minister said, would be in fact a continuation of the trade agreement signed in 1973 which expired last week. However, Mr. Mukherjee said that certain new areas might be identified during discussions with his counterpart.

#### Tremendous Scope, Says Tanbir

Welcoming the Indian Minister, Chowdhury Tanbir Ahmed Siddiky Minister of State for Commerce, said that the total endeavour in the talks would be to promote "friendship through trade" between the two countries.

Mr. Siddiky who received the Indian Minister at the airport said that there was "tremendous scope" for increasing the volume of bilateral trade and economic cooperation between Bangladesh and India. The two countries had already been cooperating with each other in forums like UNCTAD and common fund in case of commodities like jute and tea.

Mr. Siddiky said that the two sides would also have discussion in the context of international trade in view of the presence of many "common factors" of mutual interest.

Besides Mr. Siddiky, the Commerce Secretary, Mr. Matiur Rahman, Indian High Commissioner in Dacca, Mr. M. Dubey, and senior officials of the Ministry of Commerce and Foreign Affairs were present in the airport to receive the Minister and his delegation.

Mr Mukherjee will call on President Ziaur Rahman, and Vice-President, Mr Justice Abdus Sattar, and hold meeting with Deputy Prime Minister for Industries, Mr Jamaluddin Ahmed. He will also attend a lunch to be hosted in his honour by Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) today Saturday.

Mr. Mukherjee was accompanied by Mr. P.K. Kaul Indian Commerce Secretary Mr N. Dayal. Director for Commerce, Mr Uma Shanker. Under Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs and Mr S.C. Chowdhury Secretary to the Minister Mr Muchkund Dubey Indian High Commissioner in Bangladesh, Mr Kuldip Shahdev Deputy High Commissioner in Bangladesh and Mr K. Shandilya, First Secretary of the Indian High Commission in Dacca will also join the delegation during talks.

### Trade Agreement Signed

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 5 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] A new three-year trade agreement between India and Bangladesh was signed on Saturday.

The agreement provides a framework for mode of payments in connection with trade between the two countries and also facilities for holding trade fairs and exhibitions and exchange of visits of business and trade delegations.

Under the agreement, both Bangladesh and India reiterated the "most favoured nation" treatment for access of commodities of one country to other's market on a reciprocal basis. It provides for consultations between the two governments to facilitate the implementation of the agreement which came into effect from Saturday.

The agreement will remain in force for a period of three years with provision for extension by a further period of three years by mutual consent subject to such modifications as may be agreed upon by the two governments.

The visiting Indian Commerce Steel and Mines Minister, Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukherjee and Bangladesh Minister of State for Commerce, Chowdhury Tanbir Ahmed Siddiky, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective governments at the State Guest House. Both of them led the formal trade talks on behalf of their respective sides.

An official spokesman told newsmen after the formal signing ceremony that the need for exploring all possibilities for expansion and promotion of mutually advantageous trade between the two countries was recognised in the agreement. He also said that the trade talks between the two sides would continue today (Sunday).

The Indian Commerce Minister observed after the signing ceremony that the agreement would be "an step forward" towards strengthening the economic and commercial relations between the two countries. Bangladesh Minister of State, Chowdhury Tanbir Ahmed Siddiky also expressed his happiness over the conclusion of the agreement while noting that all out effort would be made to implement the same in future.

The Indian Minister who arrived on Friday at the head of a five-member delegation will leave Dacca today (Sunday) after concluding his three-day official visit to Bangladesh.

BSS adds. Formal Minister-level trade talks between Bangladesh and India was held at the State Guest House Saturday morning.

The visiting Indian Commerce Minister Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukherjee and Bangladesh State Minister for Commerce Chowdhury Tanbir Ahmed Siddiky led the talks on behalf of their respective governments. During the hour-long meeting, the two sides finalised the new three-year trade agreement which was signed in the afternoon.

The Indian Minister was assisted in the talks by Indian Commerce Secretary Mr. P.K. Kaul, Indian High Commissioner in Bangladesh Mr M. Dubey and senior officials of his government.

The Bangladesh team included among others, Commerce Secretary Mr M. Matiur Rahman, Industries Secretary Mr. M. Matiul Islam, Ports, Shipping and IWT Secretary Mr. S. H. Chisty Additional Secretary of Railway Ministry Mr. A.M. Chowdhury and senior officials of Ministries of Commerce and Foreign Affairs.

#### Chamber of Commerce Reception

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 5 Oct 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) proposed on Saturday that India should continue to import jute from Bangladesh on commercial basis with a view to removing the existing imbalances against Bangladesh in her bilateral trade with India.

The FBCCI felt that the inclusion of non-traditional export items from Bangladesh under the commodity exchange arrangements and the retention of jute as a cash importable item by India from Bangladesh were necessary to widen the scope of bilateral trade between the two countries in a balanced manner.

It suggested that the extension of priority treatment for exportable items of Bangladesh by India was necessary to remove the existing imbalances against the former in the bilateral trade between the two countries.

The proposals of the FBCCI were placed before Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, Indian Minister for Commerce, Steel and Mines, at a reception arranged by the Chamber in honour of the visiting Indian Minister on Saturday.

In his address of welcome at the reception, Mr. Iftekharul Alam, President, FBCCI, felt that positive steps were necessary to remove the imbalances against Bangladesh in her bilateral trade with India. He noted that such imbalances amounted to Taka 61.87 crore in 1978-79 when the total imports of Bangladesh from India stood at Taka 65.86 crore as against the exports of the former to the later at Taka 3.99 crore. He pleaded for strengthening the telex and telecommunication arrangements between the two countries.

The FBCCI chief suggested that India should come forward with her technical knowledge and capital machinery to set up export-oriented industries in Bangladesh. This step, he felt, will help boost exports of Bangladesh to India. He also made a plea for setting up a joint chamber of commerce and industry between the two countries to promote bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukherjee in his speech stressed the need for exchange of "more and more" delegations at businessmen level to promote closer trade and industrial cooperation.

The Indian Minister referred to the recent visits of businessman delegations and said, "We should in fact go beyond and seek to establish institutional links at the level of business and trade association, between your federation (FBCI) and the Federation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry," Mr. Mukherjee said India might hold an engineering exhibition early next year.

Referring to Bangladesh's projection for industrialisation within the framework of the Second Five-Year Plan, the Indian Minister said the Indian businessmen and industrialists have a keen desire to associate themselves with their counterparts in Bangladesh in this significant stage of industrial and economic development.

Referring to the increasing trend of imbalance in the volume of bilateral trade, Mr. Mukherjee said that his country was aware of the problem. He said that he was able to identify some new commodities during his talks with government leaders even for import by India which he said, would narrow down the imbalance.

Chowdhury Tanbir Ahmed Siddiky, Minister of State for Commerce, Commerce Secretary Mr. M. Matiur Rahman, Indian High Commissioner in Dacca, Mr. M. Dubey, and senior officials attended the reception.

CSO: 4220



MUSLIM LEAGUE LEADER URGES END TO IRAN-IRAQ WAR

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 5 Oct 80 p 12

[Text] Khan A. Sadur chief of Bangladesh Muslim League in a statement to the Press on Saturday called upon the governments of Iran and Iraq to cease the war between the two countries immediately and solve the problems between the two Muslim neighbours through bilateral talks.

The Muslim League chief believed that the war between the two Muslim countries had made all Muslims concerned the world over. The Iran-Iraq war against the backdrop of the Israeli conspiracy to grab Baitul Mukaddas and Jerusalem, he held, would drive a wedge against the Muslim unity and brotherhood which is very essential now for the welfare of the Muslims. He said that if it continued it might lead to the Third World War.

The Muslim League Leader believed that any dispute could be solved through bilateral discussions. He urged the governments of Iraq and Iran to immediately sit in such bilateral discussions for solving their issues. He also called upon all Muslim leaders of the world to exert influence on the governments of Iraq and Iran to solve their problems through peaceful negotiations.

CSO: 4220

JOURNALISTS UNION HOLDS THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 5 Oct 80 p 5

[Text] Bogra, Oct 4. Mr Ahmed Humayun President of the BFUJ has said that the Government decision to raise the news print price will retard the development of the newspaper industry and publication sector.

He was addressing the third annual conference of the Bogra Union of Journalists (BUJ) as the chief guest on September 28 at the local Zilla Parishad auditorium.

Mr. Reazuddin Ahmed Secretary General of the BFUJ said that there was no information policy of the Government. As a result the newsprint industry was suffering a lot. He urged those newspaper owners including the Dainik Karatoa Bogra who have not yet implemented the Wage Board Award to implement the Award immediately.

The conference was presided over by Mr. Durgadas Mukherjee President of the BUJ while Mr. S. M.A. Baqi General Secretary of the BUJ presented the annual report.

Later a new executive committee of the BUJ was formed with Mirza Hossan and Mr. Mozammi Haq Talukder as the President and General Secretary respectively.

CSO: 4220

## OFFICIAL STUDY DEPLORES GANGES DIVERSION RESULTS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 5 Oct 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] Desertification has assumed a serious dimensions' in Bangladesh and "the prime cause of the desertification' is withdrawal of the Ganges water by India according to an official study published in Dacca reports ENA.

The study was jointly carried by the Landsat-Bangladesh--Water Development Board and Environment Pollution Control Board. The findings of the study have been published in an official document titled 'a resume of environment pollution in Bangladesh.'

It said desertification has resulted in a widespread and pronouncedly damaging impact on agriculture industry navigability and fishery in the north and south western districts of the country.

The study revealed a total of 150 miles of river-channels have ceased to be navigable. Intrusion of saline water in about 270 miles from the coastline have resulted in delaying crop and declining per acre-yield.

The 150 miles of river channels which have ceased to be navigable include 105 miles of the Ganges and Padma once known as the mightiest river of the region and 45 miles of the orai.

Explaining the study said in the northern region during the lean season fields become dry--rendering cultivation only possible through irrigation. During the season river water-level falls turning gravity flow irrigation unworkable. Concomitant with decline in river-water flow, the ground water level also falls. As a result the characteristic feature of the semi-arid topography emerges in the northern parts of Bangladesh only during the lean-flows season.

During the dry season water-flow of the major rivers in Southern districts particularly of the Padma, falls. The problem has been further agravated by the diversion of water-flow by the upper riparian India. This significantly contributes towards intrusion of saline water as well as drastic recession of sub-surface water level.

Thus due to the combined effect of the fall of the underground water level as well as intrusion of saline water irrigation become well-nigh impossible in the southern districts.

In the absence of adequate irrigation measures, production of rabi and boro crops is often delayed. Lack of moisture in the land during the period also resulted in the decline in per acre yield of the crops.

Intrusion of saline water has also "very adversely affected" on the fishery resources. This the study said has been quantitatively ascertained by yearly comparison of fish catch in three centres of the region.

The study said, the decline in water level, particularly of the Ehairab river near Khulna, also resulted in adverse impact on the industrial units. The increase in salinity of the rivers forced a number of industries to bring sweet water from far away places by barges.

The study mentioned that the formidable desertification process is a hydrological quandry partly due to the catchment of the waterways entering the area from the north and partly due to the menace of increasing northward movement of saline waters from the southern part.

There is a growing apprehension, the study said, that a state of equilibrium between these two major factors of desertification process is unlikely. As a result the southern districts are likely to suffer from salinity, decline in ground water flow and diminution of stream flow.

The study felt that a set of critical desertification indicators should be determined to assess vulnerability to desertification.

Experts of the Pollution Control Board are also exploring ways and means in which the United Nation system particularly the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) could provide support to help undertake anti-desertification endeavours in the country.

CSO: 4220

## MASS LITERACY PROGRAM DEEMED IMPERATIVE

[Editorial Report] Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 5 Oct 80 p 5--Bangladesh is one of the developing countries, which has a poor literacy base. The twenty odd per cent of the literates have so far contributed to the developmental goals of the country. They did so by playing their role at different strata of the society as well as at various levels of the organizations they serve. Of them quite a large number remain unemployed and thereby contribute negatively to the economy. That being so, the imperative of raising literacy rate is felt by the country's policy making authorities. The current programme for mass literacy is the outcome of such a felt need.

Apparently the programme for reaching the fruits of literacy to the millions that live in cities and towns as well as in rural areas, is a gigantic one. Huge reading materials, teaching implements, trained teachers and, above all, selfless organizers would be needed to reach the target of literacy envisaged under the mass-literacy programme. The official agencies have also depended on various local organizations for making the programme a success. With them came the top-level support from President Ziaur Rahman who takes interest in literacy and personally visits those places which have taken up programmes for literacy. A special cell in the Ministry of Education has also been created to put the programme into action.

The official agencies have enlisted support of various countries and international agencies for the mass literacy programme. Of them the UNESCO is one that bears a bigger bit of the burden in this respect in almost all countries including Bangladesh. In its recently held meeting in Belgrade the UNESCO is reported to have taken keen interest in the programme and Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman, who led the delegation to the conference, expressed optimism about continued support for mass literacy programme. His optimism should be taken as a green signal that was given to the mass literacy programme of Bangladesh. It is expected that official follow up will be done with a view to getting maximum support from the UNESCO.

As it is, the UNESCO is that specialized UN agency which works as the custodian of cultural heritage of the nations of the world. Education in general and crash programmes for mass literacy in particular may very well fall within the purview of this UN body. It is naturally expected that support from the UNESCO will take the form of expertise and technical assistance covering printing of reading materials, supply of educational equipment as well as the training of trainers and educators for mass literacy programme. The local UNESCO office, which is reportedly being considered for upgrading, is expected to work in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education for putting the programme into action.

It was also indicated by the Prime Minister that some of the developed countries including Yugoslavia, which hosted the 21st Session of the UNESCO may augment the flow of assistance for the least developed countries. If such assistance is used also for mass literacy programme the gap between the need and the resources in the area of mass literacy may be reduced. And for materializing various programmes more frequent meetings between and among countries may be organized. The UNESCO may as well work at the back of such meetings and thereby play its role more effectively in removing the course of illiteracy from this part of the world.

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION STRIKE--The scientists of the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) enters 30th day of their strike today (Sunday) for realisation of six point demands. The demands of the scientists of BAEC are: formulation of service rules, regularisation, creation and sanction of posts, promotion, academic training for the newly recruited scientists and removal of the injustices done to them in the Pay Commission Reports of 1973 and 1977. Bangladesh Atomic Energy Scientists Association in a Press release issued on Saturday urged the authority to accept the demand of the scientists and allow them to play their due role in nation building activities. The scientists of BAEC went on strike in 1979 which was withdrawn on assurances from the authority, but the problems remain unresolved till today, the Press release said. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 5 Oct 80 p 12]

CSO: 5100

# NAGA FACTION SUPPORTERS REPORTED KILLED IN BURMA

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 9 Oct 80 p 1

[Text]

KOHIMA, Oct. 8.—The Muivah-lak faction of the underground Nagas, operating from northern Burma, suffered a major setback when 79 people were killed by the rival pro-Phizo group led by "colonel" Singhyan at Laingno village in northern Burma on September 27 according to a delayed confirmed report reaching here today, says (UPI).

The dead included "brigadier" Thombo, "chief of the Army Staff" of the Muivah-lak group, his secretary "captain" Sangem, commander Kethou, "captain" Chonel, one "minister", three "lieutenants", 12 "havildars" and 55 rifle men.

The pro-Phizo group recovered Rs 10,000 from the "minister". The money was believed to have been taken from a village in Nagaland during a raid on September 3.

The Muivah-lak group comprising about 100 people were camping in the Khelmungan Naga-inhabited Laingno village in northern Burma with a view to attacking the Khelmungan Naga areas of Nagaland the next day.

The villagers of Laingno secretly gave this information to the pro-Phizo group, led by "colonel" Singhyan, who surrounded the entire village at about 11 p.m. and slayed the members of the Muivah-lak group when they were in deep slumber without any resistance, the report said.

The pro-Phizo group also captured a huge amount of arms and ammunition which were hidden in six dumps. The group also destroyed a bridge connecting Laingno village with the main camp of the Muivah-lak supporters.

CSO: 4220



## GANDHI DENIES PRO-SOVIET TILT IN FOREIGN POLICY

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 4 Oct 80 pp 1, 9

[Article by Sudhin Dey]

[Text]

**DARJEELING, Oct. 3.**—The Prime Minister told a Press conference here today that there was no tilt in India's foreign policy towards the Soviet Union. She said "there had been no such tilt in the past, there is no such tilt at present and there will be no such tilt in future".

Mrs Gandhi said this when a reporter drew her attention to a statement by the former Prime Minister, Mr Morarji Deasai, alleging such a tilt towards the Soviet Union. She said nobody attached any significance to Mr Deasai's allegation.

In reply to another question, she said there were no strings attached to the supply of crude oil from Russia. Asked if the non-aligned nations could do something in regard to the West Asian flare-up, Mrs Gandhi remarked that it was difficult to suggest anything. The task of the non-aligned nations was to settle disputes through negotiations and not by confrontation. But the non-aligned movement was divided. Politics had crept into it. "During my earlier regime, we could act unitedly because we mainly dealt with economic issues."

Asked to explain what she meant by "India facing a threat of economic aggression", Mrs Gandhi said she had not used that phrase at Calcutta airport as reported in the Press. She added, however, that not only India but all Third World countries were facing an economic threat because of the protectionist policy of the developed countries. India's problem was peculiar because it did not fall under either of the two categories.

Though India's per capita petroleum consumption was one of the lowest in the world, its total petroleum consumption was quite high because of its large population. The OPEC countries were, however, considering India's case.

Referring to the demand for inclusion of the Nepali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, the Prime Minister said her Government was already committed to it. But the time was not opportune now. Agitations were going on against Nepalis and Bengalis in Assam and Manipur and

if recognition was now given to Nepali language, the animosity against Nepalis might spread to other parts of the country. It might arouse anti-Nepalese feelings and people were very touchy at the moment.

Regarding the demand for a separate State for Nepali-speaking people in India she said it would not serve the cause of the Nepali people. In reply to another question, she said the situation in Assam was improving.

When it was pointed out to her that the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Mr Jyoti Basu, had said recently that most of the law and order problems in West Bengal had been created by Congress (I) supporters Mrs Gandhi said: "Then how is it that most of those killed were Congress (I) people? Are they killing themselves?" She asked if it was not a fact that Marxist trade unions were creating trouble, like go-slows and strikes in industry. If everything was all right, why was there chaos in universities, colleges, courts and offices in West Bengal?

Earlier addressing a meeting of Congress (I) workers here she criticized the CPI(M)-led Government in West Bengal. She said the Marxist did not believe in democracy and were attacking everything that stood for democracy. The Marxists wanted partisan judges and would like to distribute land only to those who believed in Marxism. "Where would the ordinary people go then?" she asked.

She told the Congress (I) workers that they should not expect the Centre to topple the Marxist Government. Such toppling brought only a short term advantage. Party workers should try to strengthen their organisation in the State.

Mrs Gandhi made a scathing attack on the Press, saying it was

not reporting correctly the lawlessness in West Bengal, Kerala and Tripura where the Marxist Governments were in power. The Press barons were afraid of her because they knew that she alone could change society and that the Congress (I)'s aim was to usher in socialism.

The Prime Minister said that during the last Parliamentary elections, she had received large support from women, the backward classes and the minorities and now the Opposition leaders and the newspapers were trying to alienate these people from her by spreading wild rumours of rape attacks on Harijans and other minorities. In a large country like India, there could be one or two incidents of rape. But should such incidents receive headlines in newspapers?, she asked.

Journalists clamoured for freedom of the Press. But was this the way to ensure it? Mrs Gandhi said, Allegations had been made that her Government was drifting but it was not really a drift. What was actually happening was that development work was not progressing as fast as it should. This was because Government officers and scientists had become demoralized and had lost confidence during the Janata rule. They were slowly getting back their confidence and important work like the launching of a satellite had been taken to catch up with the times.

Earlier, the Prime Minister was given a rousing reception as she drove in an open jeep from the Leboni helipad to the Raj Bhavan adds UNI. She was received at the helipad by Mr Jyoti Basu, the Union Energy Minister, Mr Ghani Khan Choudhury, the State Congress (I) chief, Mr Ajit Kumar Sen and the general secretary, Mr K. B. Chetty.

## GANDHI ASSERTS SUPREMACY OF PARLIAMENT

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 9 Oct 80 p 10

[Text] Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on Wednesday decried the tendency among some Opposition leaders 'to propound a theory that the courts were the only custodian of democracy,' reports UNI.

The courts had the right to interpret laws and strike out acts but 'any attempt to seriously erode the supremacy of Parliament would be a setback to democracy' she added.

Mrs Gandhi was addressing the concluding session of the three day orientation seminar at Badkhal Lake (Haryana), about 30 km from New Delhi.

The seminar was organised by the Congress party in Parliament to train the young and new MPs in Parliament conduct and procedure.

Speaking on 'Indian politics and Parliamentary Democracy' the Prime Minister said in a country like India with its great diversity no other system than democracy could work effectively.

## Red Tapism

The Prime Minister said there was nothing wrong with the democratic system as such but the most crucial factor was how it worked. 'We have got ourselves entangled in red tapism and I do not know how to get out of it' she added.

Mrs Gandhi observed that she had been at times misunderstood because of her stress on discipline along with democracy. 'Democracy is more fragile if there is no discipline but it becomes invincible if certain self restraints are exercised, she added.

The Prime Minister strongly denied the Opposition charge that her Government was at a drift. 'We may be slow but our economic goals and policies have been clearly spelt out in Parliament as well as outside', she said.

She could not understand the plea from some quarters that democracy could better run with a consensus. There could be some subjects such as need to evolve communal harmony, where there could not be two opinions. But how could one sit and take a decision with political parties who were diagonally opposed in ideologies on subjects such as socialism and secularism, she asked.

### Communal Harmony

She exhorted her partymen that a political party must remain vocal and active in public in order to survive. And called upon them to work for promoting communal harmony.

### Rumour Scotchd

Mrs Gandhi scotched rumours that she had been keeping indifferent health. 'I have not taken any drug or injection for a long time. I have always avoided medicine and I take injection only when I have to do it for going abroad,' she said amid laughter.

She said the rumours about her 'bad health' were set afloat probably when she reluctantly accepted a throat lozenges in the course of her Red Fort speech on the last Independence Day. 'I accepted the lozenges because I thought it would go waste. The rumour was spread that I had started taking drugs,' she added.

CSO: 4220

## WORKS MINISTER REPORTS ON MIDDLE EAST VISIT

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 8 Oct 80 p 5

[Text] Public sector organisations like the National Buildings Construction Corporation and Engineering Projects India Limited are losing heavily in their West Asian projects because of penalties imposed on them for delay in completing contracted jobs.

Works and Housing Minister P C Sethi who returned from Libya and Kuwait told reporters on Tuesday that he had discussed the issues with his counter parts there and had sought to explain to them that the delays in completing some turnkey and other projects were for reasons beyond control.

He also discussed with the Housing Ministers to waive their conditions that Indian contractors get bank guarantees from international banks stationed in West Asia for grant of contracts. Guarantees by the Reserve Bank of India, which was backed by the Government of India, should be accepted for contracts, he said. The local Governments are said to be considering the Indian request.

Indian companies, including those of the public sector, do a large business in West Asia where some of them are constructing the entire townships apart from airports, schools and even mosques. In Libya alone, 16 companies are functioning on contracts totalling over Rs. 1,500 crores. Over 30,000 Indians are employed in Libya alone.

Two more protocols have been signed with Libya for township construction projects and discussions are going on for revising India's quotation for two plush hotels at Shahat and Sabra that for an estimated Rs 50 crore.

Although the NBCC and EPIL have been penalised for construction delays--because of paucity of raw materials, difficulties in transport and a belated change in project--the work of Indian companies has been widely appreciated in Libya, and Kuwait. The NBCC was given a commendation certificate for constructing the Mosque at Ghat on a turnkey basis. The design of the mosque, including engravings of Qoran verses were appreciated.

The public sector organisations were expanding contacts in the region. Feelers had been received from Saudi Arabia which require the NBCC to go into partnership with a local firm for taking on projects. In Kuwait, India is building the entire Government secretariat, including the office of the Prime Minister. It is building a township for 3,000 families, apart from reclaiming land from the sea.

In view of the large volume of contracts, Government of India is also intervening to ensure that Indian workers get a fair deal in these countries. The major problem is of housing, and the Libyan Government has been approached to allot a portion of housing units in new constructions to Indians.

The Minister said it was not true that restrictions had been placed on Indians remitting their earnings home. According to local regulations, blue collar workers would remit up to 90 per cent of the money earned, while white-collared staff could send back 60 per cent of their earnings. The matter has however been taken up with the local Housing and Finance Ministers who agree that bureaucratic procedures, which now cause delay in remissions, will be expedited.

CSO: 4220

## FINANCE MINISTER TALKS TO PRESS ON IMF PARLEY

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 9 Oct 80 p 1

[Text]

**NEW DELHI, Oct. 8.**—India should this year get more than the \$2.7 billion (Rs 2,100 crores) from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund than it received in 1979-80, despite China now being entitled to loans from the two institutions. This is the impression given to Mr R. Venkataraman, Minister for Finance, during his recent talks in Washington where he attended the annual meetings of the World Bank and the IMF.

On his return today, Mr Venkataraman told reporters that expectations of more aid were based on the likelihood that IMF members would be allowed to make use of 600% rather than the present 200% of their quotas, and because the World Bank was making efforts to raise more resources from developed and OPEC countries and commercial borrowings.

On India's and other developing countries' insistence, it was also expected that the special trust fund of the IMF, created from the sales of gold, would be continued from repayments now falling due. The trust fund is now virtually exhausted and it had originally been planned to close it down, but this decision has been reversed.

Mr Venkataraman said he had asked that efforts be initiated immediately for the seventh replenishment of the funds of the International Development Association, the soft-loan affiliate of the World Bank. India is a major beneficiary of the IDA, although its share is bound to be reduced as a result of China's entitlement to borrow from the world financial institution. India has asked for some kind of "bridging arrangement" until the replenishment can be made.

India's quota with the IMF is expected to be raised by nearly 80% when reallocations are made next year. Mr Venkataraman said the response by the executive to this

request was "not negative". He expected the World Bank's new affiliate, the Energy Bank, to take care of the needs to develop energy sources in developing countries from next year. Although the interest rates would be high, he did not think this would be a hurdle since the returns from the projects for which loans would be given would be higher.

PTI adds: India regarded acceptance of the proposal that the IMF trust fund should continue to operate to extend concessional balance of payments assistance as a "major achievement" because the IMF had practically decided to wind up the trust fund after disbursing the \$4 billion which accrued to it from the profits of the sale of 25 million ounces of gold. India suggested that out of repayments made by countries against trust fund loans already disbursed, a part should go toward interest subsidisation and the balance should be recycled as balance of payments support loans.

A supplementary allocation of six billion Special Drawing Rights in 1981 has also been urged by developing countries including India to strengthen their reserves in proportion to their quotas in the fund. (such allocation helps to increase world liquidity in the context of the huge current account deficits run by oil-importing developing countries. The response to this proposal was "not negative".



## COMMERCE MINISTER, MP'S DISCUSS JUTE SURPLUS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Aug 80 p 5

[Text] Commerce Minister Pranab Kumar Mukherji told the Lok Sabha on Wednesday that the Jute Corporation of India (JCI) was not in a position to make monopoly purchase of jute but the West Bengal Government was free to set up a statutory organisation of its own for that purchase along the lines of the cotton purchase unit set up by the Maharashtra Government.

Replying to a calling attention motion, Mr Mukherji said that the West Bengal Government was free to come forward with a concrete proposal in that regard. Asked whether he would guarantee sufficient Central funds for such an organisation, he said, "Let them come before the Finance Ministry."

The issue of jute prices generated much heat in the House and trading of allegations between Mr Niren Ghosh (CPI-M) and Mr Mukherji. While Mr Ghosh charged that the Minister's statement on the subject had been prepared at the behest of the Indian Jute Mills Association, which was the main exploiter of jute-growers, Mr Mukherji hit back, saying that it was his party which had helped the mill-owners by forcing a two-month strike in jute mills and thus causing a glut of raw jute.

Mr Mukherji said that there was a surplus of jute not only in India but Bangladesh also. Bangladesh was selling its jute at throw-away prices. There was tough competition from there. There was more jute in the market than what the mills could process.

Yet, he had directed the JCI to ensure that it must not allow jute prices to fall below the statutory minimum prices, whatever quantities it might have to purchase. Besides, he had also directed IJMA to purchase four months of stock this season at the statutory price.

As for upward revision of the price, he said that the Government had to go by the recommendation of the Agricultural Prices Commission in that regard. "Parliament has said that we go by the recommendations of the APC; if Parliament says we should go by Mr Niren Ghosh's recommendations, we shall do that" he added, causing a burst of laughter.

During the discussion, Mr Rupchand Lal and Mr Niren Ghosh demanded a minimum price of Rs 300 a quintal for jute. They charged that jute prices had crashed, falling as low as to Rs 131 a quintal in some places. They wanted the JCI to make monopoly purchase of jute. They as well as Mrs Geeta Mukherji (CPI) said that while the Government was giving high subsidies to the Cotton Corporation, the Jute Corporation was being starved of funds.

To this, Mr Mukherji's reply was that cotton prices in Maharashtra had throughout been higher than the statutory minimum mainly because the State Government had set up a very good infrastructure for monopoly purchase of cotton. The West Bengal Government could also do the same.

Mr Mukherji told Mr Vijay Kumar Yadav (CPI) and Mr Chitta Basu (FB) that JCI was free to make commercial purchases after exercising its judgment without incurring any loss.

Mr Basu demanded that the entire jute trade school be nationalised.

CSO: 4220



## 'NATIONAL ALTERNATIVE' PARLEY PLANNED FOR 1981

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Oct 80 p 7

[Text] An all-India convention for a national alternative is to be held early next year. It was decided on Friday at a convention in the Capital.

The convention, called by Mr H. N. Bahugna's friends and followers drawn from all over the country, decided to hold the three-day all-India convention from 23 January, the birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The venue of the convention would be fixed later by a steering committee set up at this meeting.

The two-day meet, which concluded on Friday, was held amidst widespread enthusiasm and attended by 1,500 delegates.

The concluding session adopted a resolution denouncing the imposition of the National Security Ordinance which was bound to be used against the democratic forces.

The resolution observed that the present economic political and social problems facing the country were the outcome of the Government's "wrong, directionless and reactionary policies." It noted that price rise, unemployment, atrocities on women as well as social and communal disturbances were all problems resulting from the uneven economic development and loot. The convention felt that these could be eliminated through progressive policies and a wide national vision.

Summing up the discussions Mr Bahuguna called upon the people to eradicate intrusion of black money in politics. He proposed that accounts of all political parties be audited to curb the power in elections and reduce election expenditure. He felt the Chief Election Commissioner should discuss the issue with political parties.

The Shahi Imam of Jamma Masjid said the recent communal disturbances were not in any way the consequence of clashes between Hindus and Muslims or between Harijans and Muslims, but the "creation of the administration" which ran such organs like the PAC.

Mr K V Raghunatha Reddy, former Union Labour Minister, called for structural changes in the system at the earliest.

Others who spoke included former Tripura Chief Minister S L Sinha, former UP Minister Syed Ahmed, former Minister of West Bengal Shanti Dasgupta, Mr R L Rakhi, MP, former UP Minister Mr Shyam Mishra, Mr T S Negi, MP, former Deputy Chief Minister of UP Narayan Singh, Mr G Kunnukrishna Pillai, Mr Mannikka Rao, Mr S L Krishnamurthy, Mr P S Acharya. The convention was presided over by Mr Neelalohitadasan Nadar.

CENTER WARS AGAINST PREVENTIVE DETENTION MISUSE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 9 Oct 80 p 4

[Text] The Union Home Ministry has asked the State Governments to ensure that local officers do not 'misapply' the provisions of the National Security Ordinance, reports UNI.

In a set of comprehensive guidelines, the Ministry has pointed out that in the past there were some cases where local officers had not acted within the provisions of the law and had ordered detention on wrong grounds.

To prevent recurrence of such cases, the State Governments have been advised to organise workshops at district or even sub-divisional headquarter levels to train officers to frame grounds of detention and pass detention orders in conformity with the requirements of the ordinance.

It has been made clear to the State Governments that the ordinance should be, in the main, used against anti-national and antisocial elements who try to weaken the forces of law and order and not against economic offenders.

To deal with economic offenders, the States have been asked to invoke the prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act.

The State Governments have been advised to curb the tendency of some junior police officers to resort to detention as a short-cut. They have been asked to make superintendents of police personally responsible for supplying proper grounds of detention.

Some of the other suggestions made to the State Governments are: Disciplinary action against officers who order detention in a wilful and malafide manner; constitution of advisory boards to review detention cases referred to them within three weeks of the date of detention; and that the State Governments themselves consider the representation of a detenu if preferred by him with a view to reviewing his case before sending it to the advisory board.

It has been emphasised that district magistrates and their superior officers should ensure that the powers vested in them by the ordinance are not misused at anytime since preventive detention affects the civil liberties of citizens.

## SHIPPING MINISTRY PLANS EXPANSION OF PORTS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Oct 80 p 4

[Text] Calcutta, Oct 6 (UNI).--The Union Ministry of Shipping and Transport has allocated Rs 100 crore for the development and expansion of various ports in the country, Union Minister of Shipping and Transport A. P. Sharma said here today.

He told a press conference that this was part of the Rs 265-crore plans for the Shipping and Transport Ministry sanctioned till this month.

While Rs 65 crore had been earmarked for the construction and development of roads, he said, Rs 8 crore was allocated for the development of inland water transport and Rs 52 crore for the development of shipping.

Mr Sharma assured that the Union Government had decided to provide funds for modernisation of the Calcutta port. While a sum of Rs 21 crore had been earmarked for this purpose in the sixth Plan, about Rs 18 crore had been given for the purchase of mobile equipment like 36 units of forklifts, eight quay-line cranes, one transporter and one portainer cranes for the Garden Reach jetty, which was being developed as barge terminal for loading containers on barges.

He said this amount would also include the development of 'D' shed of the Netaji Subhas docks as container terminal.

Mr Sharma said there was no major labour problem in any port of the country nor, had there been any congestion in ports. The country thereby saved Rs 45 lakh which would have been paid as congestion surcharges during the period the ports were free.

In reply to a question about certain controversies, raised by the crew of the SCI vessel, M V Andaman, about the quantum of ration on board, Mr Sharma said this seemed to be the extension of the previous tactics adopted by a section of the crew for stalling the movement of ships in support of their various so-called demands. These were set at rest following a meeting with Chief Minister Jyoti Basu, he added. "We will see to it that such things do not take place in future. The ship had necessary clearance certificates about ration and other things", he said.

CSO: 4220

## CPI(M) DELEGATION TO NORTH KOREAN CONGRESS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Oct 80 p 7

[Text] CPI-M PolitBureau members M. Basavapunnaiah and Samar Mukherjee, CPI Central Executive Committee member M. Farooqi, Congress-I general secretary S. S. Mohapatra and former Speaker in Maharashtra Assembly Shivraj Patil, MP, have left for Pyongyang via Moscow to attend the Korean Workers Party's Sixth Congress.

Although it is not yet certain the CPI-M leaders will most probably return via Peking. There is a standing invitation for them from the Chinese Committee for Relations with Foreign Countries. But since the CPI-M Central Committee is meeting in Delhi from 23 to 26 October, the CPI-M leaders will not find time for a long stay in China.

According to CPI-M general secretary E.M.S. Namboodiripad, at the moment the CPI-M is interested to have party-to-party relations with both the Soviet Communist Party and the Communist Party of China, but the 'Soviets have not advanced as far as the Chinese in their response to the CPI-M overtures.

By this, he meant that whereas the Chinese Communists had agreed in principle to invite on behalf of the CPC Central Committee a delegation of the CPI-M Central Committee to visit China (most probably early next year after the 12th Congress of the CPC by the end of 1980), there was no such assurance on the part of the Soviet Communist Party which is only prepared for exchanges at the moment. Recently, the CPI-M Polit-Bureau member Jyoti Basu met alternate member of the Soviet Communist Party's Polit-Bureau Boris Ponomarev in Moscow when he went there to attend the Moscow Olympics.

After that, another Polit-Bureau member of the party B. Ramamurti stopped over in Moscow (on his way back from Sofia where he had gone to attend the World Parliament for Peace) to see his sister-in-law in a Moscow hospital. He availed of the opportunity to exchange views on the current political situation with a senior official of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee.

CSO: 4220

## CPI(M) RESOLUTION GREETS CHINESE COMMUNISTS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 4 Oct 80 p 10

[Text]

**W**HILE congratulating the Chinese Communist Party on the 51st anniversary of the People's Republic of China, the CPI(M)'s central committee has stated that it will continue its efforts towards restoration of friendship between two great socialist countries, China and the USSR, and the unity of the international Communist movement.

The central committee feels that the new modifications and changes brought about by the Chinese Communist Party in the socio-economic field will have a far-reaching impact on rebuilding the Sino-Soviet friendship and understanding in the international Communist movement. The bitter relations between the two great socialist countries have not only stalled the progress of the worldwide Communist movement but have also helped the imperialists, according to the resolution adopted by the central committee.

It is a matter of great relief and happiness, the resolution points out, that China has launched a great campaign to rectify the grave errors committed during the Cultural Revolution and has brought in significant changes over the past three years in economic planning, industry, agriculture, science and technology. The CPI(M) in this connexion, welcomes the deliberations of the recently concluded Chinese People's Congress. China's economy received a severe jolt from the mistaken and ultra-Left policies adopted by the Chinese Communist Party following the Cultural Revolution.

Quoting Mrs Gandhi's message to China's new Prime Minister, the resolution says that the CPI(M) fully endorses the spirit of the message seeking an improvement in the bilateral relations between the two countries in the interest of world peace.

## INDIA MAY TAKE UP DUTIES ISSUE AFTER U.S. POLLS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 4 Oct 80 p 13

{Text}

NEW DELHI, Oct. 3.—The Indian Government is having second thoughts about taking up the question of countervailing duties imposed on some exports by the USA with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade for arbitration. It now feels that this should be done only after the presidential elections in the USA are over.

This follows the assessment that it was probably political reasons that forced the U.S. Administration to impose the duties—on such items as iron castings, like manhole covers, and industrial fasteners, like nuts and bolts—and these pressures will ease after the elections.

Already, the USA has announced that countervailing duties on Indian textiles will not be imposed since a committee has found that these products are not subsidized. The countervailing duties were levied on the grounds that certain Indian imports were being subsidized to the detriment of U.S. industry.

But the duties on iron castings and industrial fasteners remain. Following the failure of talks with the USA on removal of the duties, the Indian Government had decided to take the matter to GATT on the ground that these violated the recent international

agreement on subsidies and countervailing measures.

By imposing the duties, the USA resorted to a provision in the agreement which enables a signatory not to apply the pact to "unfriendly countries". This was strongly resented by the Indian Government which considered this as an "unfriendly act"—a serious matter in international relations.

Informal talks on the matter have continued since the final decision of the U.S. Administration to impose the duties was conveyed to India on August 15. This has led to the decision not to Press the matter immediately. However, if there is no evident change in the U.S. attitude before the end of the year, GATT will be asked to rule on the question.

Normally, the USA should have made an "injury test" to determine whether the Indian "subsidies" harmed its own industry, but this was not done. The U.S. domestic law requires that a signatory to the agreement has to be recognized by it as a "country under the agreement" before the injury test is made applicable. The USA insists on the developing countries undertaking a commitment to reduce export subsidies for extending such recognition.



## JANATA GENERAL SECRETARY TALKS TO PRESS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 8 Oct 80 p 16

[Text] The absence of President Brezhnev from the dinner hosted by the Indian Embassy in Moscow during President Reddy's visit was a "calculated decision", taken by the Soviet Union to "insult" our country, Mr L. K. Advani, general secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party, said at a Press conference in Calcutta on Tuesday.

He sought a "clear explanation" from the Union Government why such "discourtesy shown to the Indian President should be tolerated". He said the excuses shown by the Soviet Government that Mr Brezhnev had a prior engagement and that he had to attend a condolence meeting of a Politburo member were not adequate. "The four Indian journalists accompanying the President were tipped off in the morning that President Brezhnev might not attend the dinner," Mr Advani added.

According to Mr Advani, the "discourtesy" shown to Mr Reddy was a clear indication of the Soviet Union's displeasure over India's unwillingness to "ditto 100%" the Soviet action in Afghanistan.

Mr Advani criticized the Union Government for its "attempts" to install a Congress (I) Government by the "backdoor" in Assam. He said negotiation on the Assam issue was delayed because New Delhi was more interested in installing a Congress (I) Government in Assam than finding a proper solution to the problem.

He blamed the "gross administrative failure" of the present Congress (I) Government for the recent outburst of communal riots in several States. Now that the Government has failed due to its own ineptitude, it sought scapegoats like "foreign hands."

According to Mr Advani, the Congress (I) Government has failed in all three things they had promised before the elections--communal harmony, law and order and curb on price rises. He said in Delhi, some women members of Parliament had recently asked for cars as they could not dare walk in the city after 7 p.m. He said the price rise could not be checked as all the crores of rupees which the Congress (I) took from business men for the election, were now being extorted from the people by them.

Mr Advani urged the Law Ministry to tell the people what the Government thought of the Chief Election Commissioner's recommendations for electoral reforms. He endorsed the recommendation of the Election Commissioner that an election fund of Rs 100 crores should be set up to finance the party expenditure for the election. He also endorsed the Election Commissioner's suggestion to introduce a "proportional representation for half the seats of the Legislative Assembly" which would mean a direct election of half the candidates recommended by a party.

According to Mr Advani, the National Security Ordinance was introduced "without the slightest excuse."

Regarding the CPI(M) Government in West Bengal, Mr Advani said that when in power, the CPI(M) had the same intolerant and anti-Opposition attitude which they themselves, and quite rightly, criticized in the Congress (I).

CSO: 4220

## SOVIETS ASSURE CRUDE OIL SUPPLY FOR 1981

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 4 Oct 80 p 9

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 2.--The Soviet authorities have promised to "consider sympathetically" India's request to raise the quantum of supply of crude and petroleum products for the next year, but India is stated to have drawn blank as far as the request for additional supplies for the rest of this year is concerned. With oil supplies disrupted as a result of the Iran-Iraq war, the chances of India bridging the gap between its demand and supply now appears to be bleak.

There has been no Soviet commitment on India's request for a long-term arrangement for crude supply. All that the Soviet Oil Minister, Mr Maltsev, and the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Arkipov, have told the visiting Indian Petroleum Minister, Mr Veerendra Patil, is that the Soviet Union has longer commitments both at home and abroad. For any additional promise to be made to India, the Soviet Union would have to change its allotments and priorities--all this leading to little optimism on this front.

Mr Patil, who is visiting Moscow as the Minister-in-Waiting, took the opportunity during the past three days to discuss with the Soviet authorities India's problems of securing oil supplies in view of the Iran-Iraq conflict, both these countries being India's major suppliers. Although oil was only a secondary point as far as President Sanjiva Reddy's agenda was concerned, it has somehow assumed more importance.

It is learnt that the point was mentioned to the Soviet leaders by both Mr Reddy and Mr Patil in course of their talks. Mr Patil's plea was that out of about 600 million tonnes of its oil production annually, the Soviet Union could make available to India one percent or six million tonnes on a long-term basis. That would obviate India from approaching uncertain sources and enable it to get its bulk supply from the Soviet Union.

Mr Patil urged that for the next year the Soviet Union raise the usual allotment to India of 1.5 million tonnes to three or 3.5 million tonnes of crude and from 1.9 million tonnes to 2.5 million tonnes of petroleum products. The Soviet leaders have agreed to consider this request sympathetically. One requirement of the Soviet Union, presumably, is that because it been a bad year for crops, that country would like to get from India wheat and rice which it would otherwise have to buy from other countries in hard currency. [as published]

This year the Soviet Union has already made available to India one million tonnes of crude out of 1.5 million tonnes committed and it would stick to its promise of another .5 million tonnes. But the Soviet Union could not go beyond that--an extra half a million asked for by India--in view of its own commitments.

This morning President Sanjiva Reddy did not visit, as had been scheduled, the exhibition of economic achievement of the USSR. Soviet dignitaries, waiting to receive Mr Reddy at the gate of the exhibition ground, dispersed after they came to know that he had "cancelled" the visit, according to USSR sources. Indian sources stated that the President had conveyed to the Soviet authorities that it would be "inconvenient" for him to make the visit.

Neither of the two sides was inclined to interpret Mr Reddy's failure to turn up at the exhibition as having anything to do with Mr Brezhnev not attending last night's return banquet that Mr Reddy was to give in his honour. There is much disappointment in Indian circles at the turn of events, which were ascribed by diplomatic sources to a certain fault in protocol, although it seems to be much more serious than that, India being one of the most friendly countries of the Soviet Union. The reports state that at one stage Mr Reddy had threatened to cancel the banquet.

CSO: 4220

# PRC INTEREST IN NORMALIZATION FEARED WANING

Madras THE HINDU in English 9 Oct 80 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 8. China watchers in Delhi are a little perplexed by an apparent hardening of Beijing's attitude towards India after the recent changes in the Chinese Government, although they see no definite pattern yet behind the stray pointers to a waning interest in early normalisation.

The Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr. Huang Hua, who was recently promoted to the rank of a Vice-Premier, left New York without meeting the External Affairs Minister, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, after addressing the U.N. General Assembly session.

The Beijing Radio broadcasts beamed to India, which at one time reported only the negative developments in this country, started highlighting the positive events since last year reflecting the new spirit of normalisation.

But lately the newscasts contain a mixture of both positive and negative events attributing the reports to various sources. There is, however, no evidence yet of a sustained anti-Indian campaign reminiscent of the old propaganda tirades.

The recent National Security Ordinance was reported at length by Beijing Radio along with the reasons given by the Government for promulgating it. But the fears expressed by the Opposition parties about possible misuse of the detention powers were also broadcast in news commentaries on it.

## Reappearance of Chinese Patrols

Another significant development has been the reported reappearance of Chinese patrols at Bara Hoti in Almora district in the disputed border area of the central sector and the Thagla ridge at the trijunction between India, Tibet and Bhutan.

There is no indication yet whether these Chinese patrols were sent as a token reassertion of China's right to maintain its military presence right up to the line of actual control or they had just come to make a periodic check of any activity on the Indian side.

After the 1962 conflict, the Chinese and the Indian forces had pulled back to a distance of 20 kilometres on either side of the so-called line of actual control unilaterally established by China through military action. Though there was no

formal agreement as such to establish a demilitarized zone, the two sides resorted to a tacit understanding to disengage their forces in the disputed sectors of the border to avoid incidents.

The only place where the Indian and the Chinese troops continued to face each other at close range has been at the Nathu La in Sikkim.

But otherwise there have been no major incidents anywhere along this long border after the big clash in the Nathu La area in 1968 following the dispute that had arisen over the location of the wire fence along the dividing line.

An Indian patrol that strayed across the border in 1976 was ambushed and all the jawans killed, but when another Indian contingent made a similar mistake recently the missing soldiers were located and sent by the Chinese in the normal course.

There have been some hints from the Chinese side that Mr. Huang Hua might pay a visit to Delhi in January next. But the fact that he left New York without meeting Mr. Narasimha Rao, although he found time to confer with the Foreign Ministers of several other third world countries at the United Nations, led to the impression that he was probably not planning to make a trip to India so soon.

The absence of even a ritualistic reference to the need for Sino-Indian normalisation in Mr. Huang Hua's address to the U.N. General Assembly has also puzzled observers whether Beijing is no longer interested in an early resumption of the interrupted dialogue. The new Chinese leadership probably wants to wait and watch how the Indo-Soviet relationship develops in the wake of recent events.

And even if one does not attach undue significance to the stray pointers to a waning Chinese interest in early normalisation, it is quite clear that the process is going to take much longer than expected earlier by China experts in India.

CSO: 4220



# DANGERS OF KASHMIR MILITANT GROUPS NOTED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 9 Aug 80 p 13

[Text] Srinagar, August 8. After being virtually eliminated during the 1977 assembly elections, anti-national and secessionist forces have again started rearing their head in Kashmir. This revival has been more marked in the case of the Jamaat-e-Islami and its militant student wing, Jamaat-e-Tulaba.

Both organizations have acquired enough strength to think in terms of a confrontation with the government over the question of holding the Islamic students' conference here later this month.

There is cause for disquiet over the latest pronouncements of the Jamaat and its junior wing. The Talaba president, Sheikh Tajumal Islam, has gone on record challenging the state's accession and holding out a veiled threat of waging an armed struggle to liberate the state from "India's illegal occupation.

Significantly, he stated that he could not pronounce on the legality or illegality of the Pakistani occupation of a portion of the state.

For long, the Jamaat-e-Islami has stuck consistently to its stand that there should be a plebiscite to enable the people to determine their future. After the Simla summit between Mr Z.A. Bhutto and Mrs Indira Gandhi, it shifted its stand slightly to demand that the people's future should be determined within the ambit of the accord and the U.N. charter.

## Pockets of Influence

The fundamentalism of the Jamaat does not particularly appeal to the people. It has only pockets of influence in the valley--Sopore, Anantnag, Shopian and parts of Baramulla.

It is a very potent force in Sopore, the main marketing centre for apples, where it has been able to prevail upon the government to declare the town dry--the only one in the state.

Politically, the Jamaat is not a major force in the state. Ironically, it was brought into politics by the former Congress regime as a counterpoise to Sheikh

Abdullah. Though it managed to secure five seats in the 1972 assembly elections, it was trounced in the panchayat elections two years later when the Sheikh decided to enter the fray. The 1977 state assembly elections saw its influence dwindling further when it barely managed to secure a single seat.

Though a religio-political organisation, the Jamaat has met its match in the Sheikh, who has over the years shaped religion into a political instrument. The attendance at the Hazratbal shrine on certain Fridays is evidence of this fact.

In 1975, he did not hesitate to ban nearly 2,000 schools run by the Jamaat. There was not even a murmur of protest.

#### Cadre-Based Parties

Organisationally, the Jamaat and the Tulaba are cadre-based parties. Unlike its counterparts in the rest of the country, the Kashmir Jamaat does participate in party and electoral politics. The state unit claims it functions independently of the all-India body.

Capitalising on events in Afghanistan, the Jamaat organised an international conference here in June, which attracted delegates from a number of Muslim countries. The conference was a mixed success, with the largest attendance being on the day the Imam of the holy Kabaa in Saudi Arabia delivered the sermon.

What are the factors behind the recrudescence of the Jamaat and the Tulaba? A clue, according to some political observers, lies in the relationship between the state and the Centre. Whenever a possibility exists of a confrontation with New Delhi, the secessionist forces come to the fore. This has happened during earlier regimes and it is happening now.

During the past one year, relations between the Sheikh and the Centre, particularly since the Congress(I) has come to power, have become steadily sour. The acrimony reached the peak when the Sheikh, in his Martyrs Day speech, burst out that "neither India nor Pakistan can enslave us."

#### Sheikh's Remark

Though the remark was made in the context of Centre-state relations, this one remark has led to immense misunderstanding over the Sheikh's intentions, though he has repeatedly been stressing that the state's accession is final and irrevocable.

The Jamaat thus serves as a channel for ventilation of anti-India sentiment in the valley. Earlier, this role was played by the Awami Action Committee of Mir Waiz Farooq. But, after 1977, the Mir Waiz has changed his stance and at one time threw in his lot with the Janata party.

Many political observers here believe that the Jamaat poses a long-term threat because of its cadres which, though few in number are dedicated. Others, however, see a more immediate threat in view of the anti-national and secessionist sentiment that the party represents.

## AVIATION MINISTER DESCRIBES AIR SERVICE PLANS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Oct 80 p 4

[Text] Calcutta, Oct. 6 (PTI)--A third-level air service is expected to operate in the country from 26 January next, Union Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism A P Sharma said here today.

He told a crowded press conference at Raj Bhavan that north-eastern region would be the first to have the benefit of this feeder service which would have headquarters in three-zones--Ranchi and Gauhati in the eastern region, Jaipur in central and Hyderabad in the southern region.

Mr Sharma made it clear the service would be operated by the Government, which, he said, was considering whether to amend the Air Corporation Act for this purpose or to float a separate company.

Mr Sharma said about sixty to seventy places in the country would be covered by the third-level air service.

Mr Sharma said the Government was going to acquire about half a dozen aircraft from abroad for the feeder service at a cost of about Rs. three to four crore each. The service would be introduced in phases.

The Minister ruled out the possibility of introducing Foker Friendship and Avro types of aircraft, which, he said were in the process of being 'phased out'.

He also said that four more Boeing 737 would be added to the Indian Airlines fleet in 1981.

Mr Sharma said that the communication system in the N.E. would get a major fillip with the recent decision of the Centre to construct six national highways covering a distance of 1600 kms and construction of two major bridges.

One of the bridges is across Brahmaputra at Jogighopa in Assam and the other at Siang, in Arunachal Pradesh.

Mr Sharma said the Government had already sanctioned over Rs 100 crores for the highways and Rs 30 crores for the bridges.

He said the construction work of these new projects would start immediately.

Mr Sharma, who visited Chakighat, near Tezpur yesterday had ordered on the spot a model survey to find out the feasibility of a bridge over Jiabhoroli connecting Tezpur with Jamuguri which would shorten the distance between the two places.

He said the Government bear the cost of the survey work. Besides, the Union Minister said, the Centre had also decided to construct a 135-km long road from Burakhasia-Balat-Sonpur in Meghalaya bordering Bangladesh at a cost of Rs 26 crores for the development of the border road.

Another major project taken in hand by the Government was a two-lane highway from Dimapur in Nagaland to, Nowgong in Assam via Dobaka to reduce the distance by 70 kms at a cost of Rs 16 crore.

CSO: 4220

## AWARDS GIVEN AT AIR FORCE DAY PARADE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 9 Oct 80 p 5

[Text] Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal I. H. Latif, said on Wednesday that "should a war be thrust upon us once again the nation would again be proud of the performance of the Indian Air Force, says UNI.

He expressed this confidence while addressing officers and men at an Air Force Day parade at the Delhi station to mark the 48th anniversary of IAF.

The Air Chief awarded medals to 17 officers and men, one posthumously for their distinguished services and gallantry.

Reviewing the status of the Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Latif said: "Thanks to the foresight and mature planning of our Government and the dedicated hard work of its personnel, our Air Force had been placed on a firm foundation."

He reminded the airmen that the equipment and the facilities provided to the Air Force had been procured at a staggering cost which the nation could ill afford. "It is our responsibility to ensure that we make the most effective use of the sophisticated expensive systems and on our inventory," he added.

## Dedication

The Air Chief said the greatest asset of the Air Force, however, remained the "tremendous experience and skills of our personnel, their devotion and their dedication: and their will to fight".

Emphasising the importance of the human element, he said "it is our capacity to work in peace and the quality of that work that will in the ultimate analysis determine the measure of success we achieve in any future conflict".

He expressed his appreciation for what the Government had done and was doing to improve the prospects and working conditions of the Air Force personnel.

Air Chief Marshal Latif said while problems and difficulties should be continuously analysed and remedial measures identified, it was also necessary to keep in mind the hardships and difficulties faced by million of the countrymen. "Our own difficulties and problems then fall into proper perspective", he added.

He expressed the confidence that individually and collectively everyone in the Air Force would do his utmost to uphold the traditions of the Air Force and justify the trust reposed in it by the nation".

As the Air Chief took the salute by contingents of the IAF, three MI-8 helicopter flew overhead towing the airforce ensign.

The backdrop to the Air Force Day parade was provided by two surface-to air guided missiles, and the Jaguar fighter aircraft. The ten aircraft lined up at the tarmac also included the MIG-21, SU-7, Avro-748, Ajeet and AN-12 transport plane.

In view of the austerity drive only the helicopters took part in the flypast this time.

Besides, Chief of the Army Staff, General O. P. Malhotra, others who attended the parade included Vice Admiral Awati, Chief of Personnel of the Navy, Former Chiefs of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Arjun Singh and O P Mehra, and Mr A B Malik, Secretary Defence Production in the Ministry of Defence.

After the parade the Air Chief hosted a reception for the guests.

CSO: 4220



## WRITER DESCRIBED ROLE OF AIR FORCE IN NORTHEAST

Madras THE HINDU in English 8 Oct 80 p 7

[Text] The 48th anniversary of the Indian Air Force is being celebrated on October 8.

The Indian Defence forces are today recognised as one of the best equipped and toughest fighting units in the world. Soldiers today guard the national borders round the clock, inhabiting some of the most terrifying terrains, miles away from human habitations, with the temperature ranging between zero and minus 40 centigrade. And it is the Indian Air Force that is their only link with civilisation, with their country and their loved ones.

The important role of the IAF in maintaining the supply line to the jawans, as well as in the matter of providing relief to people living in the less accessible parts of the bewildering north-east becomes very clear to anyone who visits the IAF transport base in the Eastern Sector.

Members of a press team were fortunate enough to accompany the routine sorties made by mostly young Air Force personnel day after day, regardless of difficult weather conditions. Failure to continue the sorties would mean nothing but slow death for the people in distress of the soldiers on duty, alike.

In the eastern region therefore IAF Officers operate, within a very narrow margin of error. The mountains covering the area range between 10,000 and 14,000 ft. with a marked slope discernible on the surface north to south. Towards Nagaland the hills begin to level out in comparison with those in Assam. Even the so-called advanced landing grounds in these terrains are often no more than narrow strips of barely level land, just over 200 yards long.

The IAF men admit that each landing is hazardous. There are 400 dropping zones in the entire region some of them small enough to escape all but the trained eye which must be covered daily, except during extremely bad weather. At present, the IAF drops about 50 tonnes of supply per day, according to Air Marshal M. L. Katre. The load consists of a very mixed bag of mail, foodgrains like dal and rice, meat in the shape of live goats and chicken and spices.

For people living away from friends, relatives and all the amenities of a metropolitan existence for long periods, one can well imagine how welcome the drone of an IAF aircraft flying overhead must be.

The weather in these parts is rarely good and cloud formations are usual. Because of the craggy mountain ridges, the flow of Air is disturbed and unusual Air waves are set off, making it very difficult for pilots to keep a steady course or even make effective sightings. It speaks volumes for the morale of the IAF pilots and crew, that they are able to overcome such odds day after day.

The ideal solution would be to use helicopters for the purpose of reconnaissance, or maintaining some kind of link between the north-east and the rest of the country. This is being considered by the authorities. At the moment, most of the work gets done by the old trusted Dakota fleet. It is however, believed that despite the known reliability of the old steed, the time has come to pace out the Dakota gently from this kind of work.

The ground crew and weather analysts have equally important functions. They analyse weather data collected after each flight, and have to make constant alterations in flight plans. This is flying in the most hazardous, taxing conditions without any of the glamour that is associated with flying.

The IAF does more than aerial patrolling and reconnaissance. Apart from acting as the lifeline for the north-east as at present, in early 1950 itself it had mounted massive relief operations to aid the Assamese following one of the biggest earthquakes in their State. Even very recently the IAF conducted relief operations in Darjeeling which was affected by torrential rains and landslips.

No less memorable has been the role of the IAF as an important instrument in defence efforts. In the 1962-1965 and 1971 Indo-Pakistan wars the IAF made an essentially salvage operation, bringing back the wounded and their equipment, picking up the pieces from advanced areas of action.

But in 1965, the progress it had made became clear, as the Prime-Minister, Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, decided to introduce the IAF into the fray, to break what had appeared to be a deadlock in the Western Sector against Pakistan. The IAF not only broke that, it brought the Pakistani advance to a halt by smashing up the Karachi Harbour and playing havoc with the enemy tanks and armoured cars. In 1971 again the IAF managed daily over 300 sorties into Pakistan, hitting targets almost at will, whereas the Pakistani planes, which managed only around 150 sorties daily, could not even achieve much penetration.

On the occasion of the 48th anniversary of the IAF, it must be possible for the Government to look back with satisfaction on the progress made so far, since the fateful day of October 8, 1932, when the first batch of Indian officers trained in the United Kingdom were granted commission, starting with a lone flight of four Westland Wapities in Karachi. Apart from maintaining advanced training establishments all over the country, today the country produces HF Marut 24, Ajeet, HJT 16 Kiran Chetak, Cheetah helicopters and HS-748 and MIG 21.

Relief and rescue provided by the IAF Air crew in Orissa barely a few days back has won admiration from people all over the country. To quote Mr. I. B. Patnaik, Chief Minister of Orissa, the "IAF dropped record tonnage in such a short time and this feat is unparalleled".

## DELHI ASKS SPECIAL DRIVE ON ILLEGAL ARMS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 4 Oct 80 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 3.--The Centre has asked the States and the Union Territories to launch a special drive to detect unlicensed manufacture and sale of firearms.

In a letter to the Chief Secretaries, the Union Home Secretary, Mr S. M. d. Burney, has suggested special cells at their headquarters be set up under Superintendent of Police to tackle the "menace of unlicensed arms". He has also suggested that all subdivisional police officers to make special efforts to discover unlicensed manufacture and sale of firearms.

Suitable rewards in the form of cash or advance increments for officers and the non-gazetted staff for doing commendable job in this regard have also been suggested by Mr Burney.

He has said that while the Arms Act and rules are being reviewed in the light of the present conditions, "it is necessary to take sustained and effective measures" to uncover all unlicensed weapons and to prevent smuggling and illicit manufacture of weapons. The Home Secretary has recommended the provision for some incentives to officers as well as members of the public who give useful information in this regard.

Mr Burney has suggested that reward amount for uncovering illicit arms "should be handsome enough to prove an attractive incentive". A scale of rewards may be laid down. Officers can be rewarded by a suitable entry in their character rolls and also by grant of advance increments.

The State Governments have been asked to ensure that these measures are directed against the real culprits and anti-social elements engaged in the manufacture and distribution of illicit arms. Care should be taken to ensure that artisans, workers in smith trades and small-scale metal-ware workshops are not harassed merely on suspicion.

CSO: 4220

## REPORTER DETAILS GODAVARI DRILLING EFFORTS

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Oct 80 p 16

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 5. "Gettysburg", the U.S. vessel hired by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) for drilling in the Cauvery offshore basin, is now drilling a third well, projected to a depth of 4,500 metres, at a structure located off the River Coleroon. The drilling is expected to be completed in about four weeks.

The two wells earlier drilled by "Gettysburg", had shown gas, amounting to a daily flow of about 58,000 cubic metres. The ONGC which is making an assessment of the two gas wells, has decided to drill a third well which in all probability is expected to contain gas, if not oil.

Meanwhile, the second offshore well drilled by the U.S. vessel, "Fredericksberg", in the Godavari off-shore basin, has turned out to be dry after it was drilled to a depth of 2,300 metres. The first well had shown the presence of oil flowing at a rate of 600 cubic metres per day at a depth of 2,200 metres. Owing to a number of technical problems, the ONGC could not proceed with the drilling of the second well to its target depth of 5,000 metres and it has been decided to give up further drilling. "Fredericksberg" will start drilling a third well in the Godavari off-shore basin by the third week of this month.

For some reason or other, the ONGC has not been able to complete drilling to the target depths in both the onshore and off-shore basins of Godavari. A few months ago, there was a blowout at the Narasapur on-shore well at a depth of 4,100 metres and the drilling rig was damaged. The ONGC tried to resume drilling at the same location after repairing the damaged rig but ran into snags and could not reach the target of 5,000 metres depth. The ONGC has since chosen a second onshore location where it will start drilling with an imported American rig (The first location in Narasapur was drilled with a drilling rig supplied by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL)).

Though the first off-shore well in Godavari basin showed the presence of oil at a depth of 2,300 metres, its full potential could not be assessed because drilling to the projected depth had to be abandoned on account of technical problems. Technical problems again obstructed the drilling of the second off-shore well in the Godavari basin. The result is that the ONGC has so far been unable to assess the gas and oil potential in the onshore and off-shore wells of the Godavari basin.

Though this is a set-back, the prospects of finding oil and gas in the basin are still considered bright. "Pellerin", the Norwegian vessel, which drilled the first well in Godavari basin and which had to move off to the Newfoundland coast to fulfil a prior commitment, will be returning to the Godavari basin sometime in December and the ONGC will be able to retain the other vessel. "Fredericksberg" also till mid 1981. With these two off-shore drilling rigs and two rigs drilling on-shore, the ONGC is hoping to run into luck which has so far eluded it in the Godavari basin.

#### Production in Gujarat Stepped Up

UNI reports:

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has stepped up its oil production from Gujarat by about 35,000 tonnes a month according to official sources.

This would mean the annual production from the Gujarat oil fields will be increased from 3.7 million tonnes to over four million tonnes annually.

The increase in the production is part of the Government's efforts to meet the deficit of about three million tonnes created by the outbreak of war between Iraq and Iran.

The ONGC is maintaining full capacity production of five million tonnes from the Bombay High.

The sources said the Government also proposed to complete the process of spot purchase of crude from the world market before the middle of this month.

The Government might purchase crude from the spot market even upto 500,000 tonnes though the global tender was for 300,000 tonnes.

CSO: 4220

CORRESPONDENT NOTES CHANGING DEFENSE NEEDS

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Oct 80 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 5. The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi will address tomorrow the bi-annual Army Commanders conference which is taking place at a time of major politico-military developments that are threatening to upset the present power balance in the region.

Though India is not directly involved either in the Afghan crisis or the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, it will certainly be affected by the strategic changes or economic consequences brought about by them.

Apart from discussing their own service problems relating to the country's military preparedness to meet its defence requirements, the army commanders utilise the opportunity of these bi-annual conferences to review strategic concepts and operational plans in a changing geopolitical situation.

It is customary for all army establishments to make a professional study of each war, whether big or small, to draw the right lessons from it.

It is the responsibility of the top army commanders to analyse the military compulsions and capabilities of the countries engaged in such regional conflicts while assessing the motivations and machinations of the big powers backing them.

They have to draw the right professional lessons from the conduct and outcome of these conflicts to be able to caution the political leaders about their effects on India's strategic environment.

The very first lesson that a country like India has learnt from the Iraqi-Iranian war is that the two adversaries have embarked on this hazardous gamble without realising their limitations.

They have resorted to a series of pinpricks and provocations without comprehending the consequences of such brinkmanship in a highly volatile situation. They have failed to keep up a proper correlation between their political ambitions and military capabilities in first talking themselves into this confrontation and then plunging into a war without adequate planning and preparation.



A significant side effect of the Iraqi-Iranian war which has gone practically unnoticed is that while professing neutrality the two superpowers have taken steps that could only add to the prevailing tensions in the region.

While the U.S. has started assembling a big naval force to display its ability to intervene at short notice the Soviet Union has quietly stepped up its counter-insurgency operations in Afghanistan to subdue the rebels in the outlying provinces.

After the border skirmishes in June-July between the Soviet troops and the Afghan rebels operating from their sanctuaries in Pakistan, the Soviet command has started sending out helicopter gunships to chase the rebels returning to their camps in Pakistan.

The Soviet helicopters with Afghan markings flew over the border last week in the Para Chinari area adjoining the Pakhtia province and fired on those getting back from hit and run raids presumably carried out with Pak connivance.

These incidents which would have normally hit the headlines have gone practically unreported in the world press because of its present preoccupation with the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. But such developments do not go unnoticed by the military establishments of neighbouring countries which have to take due note of their strategic implications.

The poor professional competence displayed by the Iraqi and Iranian armed forces in fighting the latest war has demonstrated once again that the military capability of a country cannot be enhanced by the mere induction of highly sophisticated arms. It is the training and quality of the men engaged in a battle that finally tilts the balance. These countries have not been able to build up their military strength with petro-dollars by simply purchasing highly expensive equipment.

The Pakistan army made the same fatal mistake by entering into a military pact with the U.S. to acquire arms. It proceeded on the assumption that one well-equipped Pakistani soldier would be more than a match to four Indians on the battle field, little realising that the better trained Indian jawan was going to give him a good drubbing even with his relatively inferior equipment.

The Indian army, with its well established tradition of professional expertise, has to make a hard-headed reappraisal of the new strategic environment in the South-West, South and South-East Asian regions to put the country's defence requirements in their proper perspective.

Though there is no direct threat to India from the big or small powers involved in the current conflicts, the country has to face the politico-economic challenges posed by the interaction of the growing Big Power rivalries in the region.

Indian military thinking was hitherto confined to the sub-continent and its immediate environment with the main focus on China and Pakistan. But now the country's defence chiefs are obliged to take a broader view of the strategic scene covering the politically sensitive flanks on either side of the sub-continent.

The army commanders will be discussing all these aspects at this conference, while they review the country's defence strategy for this decade. The fact that the Prime Minister is also Defence Minister at present will help to create, a better awareness at the highest political level of the changing strategic environment in the region.

ARMED FORCES CADRE STRUCTURE TO BE UPGRADED

Madras THE HINDU in English 8 Oct 80 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 7.--The Government has accepted with some modifications the Chiefs of Staff proposal for cadre revision and upgradation of the rank structure to open up better promotion prospects for various categories of officers and men in the armed forces.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, conveyed the Government's decision yesterday when she addressed the bi-annual conference of Army Commanders.

There have been some highly misleading reports that the Chiefs of Staff were nudging the Government to elevate their status by giving them five star grades and that, in pleading for better promotion prospects for senior officers, they had not paid adequate attention to the interests of the junior officers and other ranks at the lower levels of the three services.

The papers submitted by them to the Government from time to time covered all categories of officers and men in the matter of promotion prospects and retirement benefits.

The whole exercise started several years back with the first priority being given to the improvement of the service conditions of the men with better pay ratios and housing facilities, extended tenures, higher pensions and other retirement benefits.

During the next stage, the Government tackled the problem of premature retirement of officers at the middle levels up to the rank of Colonels in the absence of better promotion prospects.

Now, the Chiefs of Staff have prevailed on the Government to agree to cadre revision and upgradation of the rank structure at higher levels to improve the career prospects for officers in the three services.

The Indian army with nearly a million men under arms is the fourth or fifth largest in the world. It has an officer corps of about 37,000 barring medical and other non-combatant services.

The promotion prospects under the existing command structure are so poor that an average officer has only a three per cent chance of reaching a pay scale of Rs. 2,500 and above after putting in 28 years of service, and staying in that grade or above for more than five years, while the IAS and other civil services offer him 90 per cent chances of reaching that pay grade after 18 years and stay on for another 15 to 18 years in service.

If it is not possible to provide for career equivalence between civil and military services, the Chiefs of State have pleaded for cadre revision and upgradation of the rank structure so at least redress the imbalances to some extent.

They have drawn the Government's attention to the fact that, as a result of poor career prospects and meagre pay scales, the armed forces were not able to attract better quality youngmen at the officer level and, unless some steps were taken to make military careers with all their hazards more attractive the services would have to make do with second rate men.

#### Only One General

The civil servants, it was pointed out, had job security till the age of 58, while the great majority of officers in the armed forces have to retire around 45 or 50, while the other ranks have to quit much earlier without alternative employment prospects in civilian life.

There will be only one General. One Admiral and one Air Chief Marshal at the head of the Army, Navy and Air Force for the present. But the new package of cadre revision and upgradation approved by the Government will increase the number of Lt.-Generals from 28 to 39. Major-Generals from 96 to 159 and Brigadiers from 430 to 555, while the recent increases in the strength of officers at the middle levels has already raised the number of full Colonels to 850 and Lt-Colonels to 3,500.

There are roughly 9,000 Majors and 21,000 officers of the rank of Captains, Lieutenants and Second Lieutenants down the line.

The comparable figures for the Navy and Air Force will go up in the grades of Lt.-General equivalent from seven to 10 and 10 to 16 respectively. Major-General equivalent 12 to 30 and 19 to 51, Brigadier equivalent from 81 to 138 in the Air Force since this does not exist in the Navy and Colonel equivalent from 142 to 240 in the Navy and 179 to 305 in the Air Force. and Lt.-Colonel equivalent from 517 to 682 and 760 to 1,140 in the two corresponding services.

The Chiefs of Staff have also proposed the application of the principle of pay grade percentages for officers of the armed forces, in the absence of career equivalence with the civil services.

This is to provide for what is called pay promotions for those who are otherwise eligible for promotion, but cannot be fitted into rank vacancies in the absence of adequate posts even after the proposed cadre revision and upgradation of the rank structure. This would enable the Government to give in deserving cases pay promotions two or three steps above the actual rank held by them. It will be something akin to selection grades in the civil services.

But even after this upgradation, the promotion prospects in the Defence forces will be way behind those in the civil services. It will, however, improve the cumulative promotion chances to more than 45 per cent of officers up to the rank of Lt.-Colonels, 25 per cent till Colonels, 18 per cent up to Brigadiers and four per cent to Major-Generals and their equivalents in the other services.

The proposal for giving pay promotion to those who miss rank promotion, due to the absence of adequate vacancies for accommodating all those eligible for promotion, will enable about 4,500 of the 11,000 Majors to draw the pay of Lt. Colonels, 1,500 of the 3,500 Lt-Colonels, 218 of the 1,050 Colonels and 150 of the 720 Brigadiers and their equivalents in the Navy and the Air Force.

#### Financial Burden

The extra financial burden of these benefits to officers will be only Rs. 4.15 crores according to present estimates while those accruing to the other ranks will be roughly Rs. 32 crores out of an annual Defence budget of Rs. 3,600 crores.

At least, 50 per cent of this additional commitment of Rs. 36 crores can be offset by absorbing a higher percentage of retired military officers and men in para-military formations under the Union Government.

The man who worked hard, and died of a heart attack in the midst of his term, to get these cadre revisions and upgradations of rank structures approved by the Government was the former Defence Secretary, Mr. Sushital Banerji, one of the outstanding officers of the Indian Administrative Service.

He got the proposals approved in his time for improving the service conditions and retirement benefits for the jawans, sailors and airmen, besides clearing up the heavy congestion that developed at the middle levels of the officer corps due to the emergency recruitment that followed the sudden expansion of the armed forces after 1962. The latest proposals for improving the promotion prospects at higher levels were also initiated in his time.

The final instalment of upgradation, which will be taken up at a later stage, relates to the creation of more posts of Generals, Admirals and Air Chief Marshals at the top level as a logical follow-up of the cadre revision now approved by the Government.

CSO: 4220

## INDIGENOUS MANUFACTURE OF SOLAR PUMPS PROMOTED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Aug 80 p 4

[Text] The Government has finally turned down a proposal for foreign collaboration in the manufacture of solar powered water pumps in order to help indigenous development of such pumps by Central Electronics Limited (CEL) in the public sector, reports PTI.

The proposal for the import of 1,000 solar pumps from the British firm Solar Electric International (SEI) has also been turned down.

Both these proposals had been made by a private firm in Hyderabad during the Janata Government.

The firm had planned to import the SEI pumps at 35,000 each and sell it to farmer at Rs 11,000 per piece.

It had simultaneously proposed to set up a factory at Bhubaneswar in collaboration with SEI for the manufacture of 10,000 solar pumps a year.

Observers here point out that the decision to turn down the proposals was in keeping with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's recent statement stressing on self-reliance.

CEL which has developed the technology on its own for the manufacture of solar pumps is to be given all the encouragement for their commercialisation.

It has been asked to produce 75 solar pumps this year.

The basic component of solar pump is the photovoltaic (PV) modules of silicon cells which convert sunlight into electricity. These modules are being made in a production line at CEL and its production capacity is being expanded.

CEL is involving three private pump manufacturers who will provide the high efficiency pumps which will operate on the electricity generated by the PV modules.

A few CEL made solar pumps are on demonstration in Delhi and Gujarat. CEL will install one such solar pump at the residence of the Prime Minister.



## POWER CHIEF DISCUSSES PLANS, PROJECTS

Madras THE HINDU in English 10 Oct 80 p 16

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 9. The feasibility of setting up super thermal power stations in half-a-dozen new locations in addition to the four already under way, is being studied. Feasibility reports have been prepared for two locations, according to Mr. D.V. Kapur, Chairman of the National Thermal Power Corporation, (NTPC) which has undertaken this exercise.

Talking to newsmen, Mr. Kapur declined to identify the locations but indicated that each of the four power regions would have one.

Asked about the capacity of the proposed units, Mr. Kapur said that some of the new units might ultimately be around 3,000 mw. He would not rule out the capacity being higher than 3,000 mw, in some cases.

About the progress of work on the existing four super thermal power stations at Singrauli, Korba, Ramagundam and Farakka. Mr. Kapur said the work was progressing according to schedule.

The first unit of the Singrauli project would be commissioned in 1981. This would be followed by the commissioning of thirteen 200 mw and eleven 500 mw units from all the four stations. By 1991-92, 8,300 mw would be commissioned from these four projects, which represented 20 per cent of the additional generating capacity projected for this period in the whole country.

Asked about placing of orders for equipment with foreign firms for these projects in preference to the BHEL, Mr. Kapur said that being World Bank aided projects, procurement of equipment for them should be in conformity with the guidelines of the World Bank. It should be on global tenders, with 15 per cent price preference for indigenous manufacturers.

In one of the tenders, BHEL was awarded the contract but in another even after the price preference, BHEL quotation was higher.

He said so far 107 tenders to the total value of Rs. 507 crores had been floated, out of which 84 tenders valued at Rs. 380 crores had gone in favour of Indian suppliers. In addition to this, Rs. 168 crores worth of civil works had been awarded to Indian firms.



Mr. Kapur said that with the signing of the latest credit agreement for the Farakka project, the total loan commitments to NTPC by the World Bank and its affiliate IDA and reached 1.15 billion dollars, which was a record for a single organisation in the history of the World Bank.

Similarly, the 300 million dollar credit for Singrauli expansion programme was the largest amount ever agreed to by the World Bank for a single project at one time.

In addition to the agreements entered into with the IDA, there was already a commitment for West German credit to the tune of 100 million dollars. Besides, the OPEC had extended a credit of 41.8 million dollars.

The foreign credits, including some to be finalised, would meet only a part of the total investment of around Rs. 4,000 crores envisaged for the ultimate stages of the four super thermal power stations and the 400 kv transmission lines.

CSO: 4220

## POWER PRODUCTION IN NORTHEAST GETS PRIORITY

Madras THE HINDU in English 8 Oct 80 p 18

[Text] Gauhati. The North Eastern region looks forward with hope in power generation, especially in the hydel power development for which there is a great potential.

Not that the region has an immediate prospect of self-sufficiency in power, nor the present position be described as satisfactory. But the measures now being taken or planned to improve the situation are indicative of an encouraging advance towards better days ahead.

In fact, top priority has been given to the programme of power generation in the N. E. region where several schemes have been taken up by both the North Eastern Council and the Governments of the States and Union Territories of the region to minimise the prospect of a power shortage of over 500 MW by 1990.

## Kopili Hydel Project

The NEC is currently engaged in the task of exploring the possibility of harnessing effectively the water resources and also generating power from different other sources. The Kopili hydel project, for instance, with the total anticipated generation of power of 250 MW is by far the biggest scheme sponsored by the NEC involving, finally, about Rs. 120 crores.

Besides working for the thermal based power station in Garo Hills which is likely to generate 120 MW of power with a projected cost of Rs. 77 crores, the NEC has also been extending financial assistance for investigation of several power projects, including Ranganadi, Papu, Damwe and Tuivai, which will involve an overall cost of Rs. 600 crores when ready for commissioning.

According to a spokesman of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation, which is entrusted with the execution of the Kopili project, the first unit of the project will be commissioned in February 1983. The work, which was initiated in the middle of 1976, was hampered in some stages due to difficulties in movement of essential materials to the project site. Still, the project is expected to be completed in scheduled time.

The NEC will start one more hydroelectric project in the beginning of the fourth year of the Sixth Plan after commissioning of the Kopili hydel project and taking up of the Garo Hills thermal plant, according to the NEC secretary Mr. K. M. Mirani.

As per the Planning Commission decision, the NEC will fund investigation of mini hydel projects providing benefits to more than one State or Union Territory. While investigation and execution of projects benefiting a particular State or Union Territory will be the responsibility of the Government concerned, the medium sized projects of regional benefit may be the responsibility of the NEC, Mr. Mirani feels.

An amount of Rs. 166 crores has been earmarked in the Sixth Plan of the NEC for power projects.

The water and power development sector received the highest priority in terms of financial outlay during the last annual plan with an actual expenditure of Rs. 19.85 crores against the original outlay of Rs. 25.69 crores.

Among the schemes undertaken in the power sector during the annual plan, the bulk of expenditure related to the construction of the Kopili transmission project including the drawing of single circuit transmission line from Kopili power house to Khichriat grid sub-station, a double circuit transmission line from Kopili power house to Samaguri grid substation are almost complete.

#### Schemes for Investigation

Among the schemes included in the annual plan are the investigation of Kameng hydel project (250 MW) in Arunachal Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 131.31 lakhs, investigation of a high dam at Tipaimukh and the Barak river and investigation of hydroelectric project at Tipaimukh at a cost of Rs. 280 lakhs, investigation of the Loktak down-stream and Tuivai hydroelectric project at a cost of Rs. 116 lakhs, investigation of projects at Ranganadi, Papu and Damwe in Arunachal Pradesh, Tuivai, Twalong/Dhaleswari near Bhairabi and Kolodyne/Tuipui near Saiha in Mizoram and Pakke hydel project in Arunachal Pradesh.

All these schemes for investigations and surveys will involve a total estimated cost of Rs. 13.27 crores when fully implemented.

The Government of Meghalaya has suggested to the NEC for acceptance of the Myntdu (lesiba) scheme in west Khasis district and asked for financial assistance for drawing 132 KV transmission line for evacuation of power from Umiam-Umtru stage IV to Umiam-Umtru stage III and also from Umiam-Umtru stage IV to Kahilipara in greater Gauhati.

The Government of Nagaland has suggested inclusion of Doyang project (105 MW). The investigations of the two hydel schemes in Manipur viz. Tipaimukh project (600 MW) and Loktak down-stream (60 MW) are expected to be completed by 1981-82.

The Mizoram Government has stressed the need for acceptance and execution of the Serlui-B project. Mizoram also wants priority consideration for Dhaleswari project near Bhairabi (200 MW). The Manipur Government has requested for three gas turbine sets of 3 MW each to be run on oil to overcome power shortage.

The NEC is stated to be of the view that whatever power is available within the region should be equitably shared in order to avoid the possibility of lop-sided development and also to promote coordinated growth.--Our Correspondent.

## MORE SUPER THERMAL POWER STATIONS PLANNED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 9 Oct 80 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 8.--The Centre has cleared the proposal for setting up the second batch of super thermal power stations in different regions of the country.

Announcing this at a Press conference here today, the chairman of the National Thermal Power Corporation, Mr D. V. Kapoor, said the four super thermal stations were coming up on schedule and future pit-head stations in the second batch might have 3,000 MW capacity in some stations.

He said the NTPC had undertaken feasibility studies for five more super thermal stations near coal pit-heads. Under the NTPC's execution were super thermal stations at Singrauli, Korba, Ramagundam and Farakka with a capacity of 2,000 MW each.

Mr Kapoor, who is also the Secretary (Energy) said his organization had received a World Bank loan of \$1,150 million for the four super thermal power stations which were under execution. Besides, the OPEC had extended a credit of \$41.3 million. He said power from the first 200 MW unit of Singrauli would flow by the end of 1982 to be followed by the commissioning of 13 units of 200 MW and 11 units of 500 MW capacity each by 1991-92.

The NTPC chairman said a proposal for setting up four autonomous regional power agencies for controlling centrally-run power projects both in the thermal and hydel sectors, by re-structuring his organization and the National Hydro-Electric Corporation was being examined by the Government. The requirements of the States would be studied by the proposed regional agencies which would constitute a step towards the setting up of a national grid.

Mr Kapoor said the performance of the Badarpur station in Delhi, now under the management of the NTPC, would further improve in terms of capacity utilization and reliability after implementation of the plant betterment programme involving major modifications and renovation. Construction work on the fifth 210 MW unit at Badarpur was expected to be commissioned during 1981.

## RESEARCH LABS REVERT TO SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

Madras THE HINDU in English 8 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 7. The Union Cabinet today decided to transfer back to the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) four research laboratories.

They are (1) the Central Fuel Research Institute Dhanbad, (2) the Indian Institute of Petroleum Dehra Dun, (3) the Central Road Research Institute, Delhi and (4) the Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee.

These laboratories were transferred to the user Ministries with effect from April 1, 1978 as an experimental measure. There were representations from scientists and staff that by and large the experiment had not been successful.

The Cabinet also decided that in respect of three museums and ten research associations, their retransfer to CSIR or otherwise will be reviewed quickly by a committee to be set up by the Council.

The Associations are: Ahmedabad Textile Research Association, Bombay Textile Research Association, the Silk and Art Silk Mills Research Association, Bombay, the South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore. Wool Research Association, Bombay. Indian Jute Industries Research Association, Calcutta. Automotive Research Association, Poona, Indian Plywood Research Institute, Bangalore. Cement Research Institute of India, Ballabgarb and Indian Rubber Manufacturers Research Association, Bombay.

The museums whose restoration to CSIR are to be considered are the Birla Industrial and Technological Museum, Calcutta, Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum, Bangalore and the Nehru Science Centre, Bombay.

Advocates: SC to Frame Rules

The Cabinet decided to amend the Advocates Act of 1961 to make it clear that the right of advocates to practise in the Supreme Court "will be expressly subject to the rules made by that Court as in the case of High Courts".

The amendment will also make it clear that the provisions of Section 30 of the Act will not override the provisions of any special laws barring or restricting the right of legal practitioners to appear before special courts and tribunals.

CSO: 4220

## INVESTMENTS REPORTED UP IN FIRST HALF OF YEAR

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 7 Oct 80 p 9

[Article by K. K. Sharma]

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 6.--Fresh investments under the new industrial policy are expected to be made in due course in the 34 sectors allowed automatic expansion, but officials have noted a distinct improvement in investment in the first half of this year.

The assessment is mainly in terms of the increase in the issuance of letters of intent and industrial licences, the disbursement of funds by the public financial institutions and the import of capital goods--all of which indicate a spurt in investment.

Particularly gratifying is the increase in disbursements made by the financial institutions. These have risen by more than 50% in the first half of the year compared to the same period last year, indicating that industries are both modernizing and expanding.

Total disbursements in January to March, for instance, amounted to Rs 254 crores compared to Rs 175 crores in the same period last year. It is thought that the pace has increased since then even though companies faced some problems with working capital because of the credit squeeze that has been in force for some time.

According to official figures, there has been an increase of 41% in the letters of intent issued during the period January to July compared to the same period last year. This indicates a desire for increased investments in units requiring substantial investments since letters of intent or industrial licences are not required for small units.

In the same period, the number of industrial licences issued increased by 19%. Both this and the letters of intent issued show increased investment in what is known as the medium sector, much of it by new entrepreneurs.

A rise is now expected in investment by what are known as the "monopoly houses" covered by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act since 34 sectors are now free to expand by 5% a year up to a maximum of 25% in five years under the recent industrial policy statement. All these are in the so-called "core" sector and both "monopoly" houses and firms covered by the Foreign Exchanges Regulation Act are allowed the automatic expansion facility.



The final index to show improved investment is the approval in import of capital goods (machinery and equipment). In the first half of the year, the Capital Goods Committee approved the import of items worth Rs 185.51 crores compared to Rs 133.91 crores in the same period last year.

However even though fresh investment is showing a healthy buoyancy, the same is not yet true of industrial production although this has increased marginally. The index for May was 147 compared to 142.6 in April but this is only slightly more than the 146.2 in May 1979.

But since then the monsoon has been uniformly good and power generation has improved all over the country (at least 14 States have lifted "load-shedding" programmes entirely). This is thought to have led to an improvement in production which will be reflected in the index when it is compiled for the period after July.

CSO: 4220

## BRIEFS

**GUJARAT OIL OUTPUT**--The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has stepped up its oil production from Gujarat by about 35,000 tonnes a month according to official sources reports UNI. This would mean the annual production from the Gujarat fields will be increased from 3.7 million tonnes to over four million tonnes annually. The increase in the production is part of the Government's efforts to meet the deficit of about three million tonnes created by the outbreak of war between Iraq and Iran. The ONGC is maintaining full capacity production of five million tonnes from the Bombay High. The sources said the Government might purchase crude from the spot market even up to five lakh tonnes though the global tender was for three lakh tonnes. In the Godavari basin, the ONGC's drilling vessel 'Fredricksberg' has moved out of the G-2 structure and will take up drilling of the third well shortly. There is no indication of hydrocarbons in the second well at a depth of 2,400 metres. The ONGC authorities have now closed the well. The ONGC proposes to take up the drilling of another well in the Godavari basin after completing the third. With ONGC stepping up its production capacity, the total indigenous production next year is expected to be about 14 million tonnes as against the current production of about 12 million tonnes. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Oct 80 p 4]

**GREETINGS TO KWP**--CPI general secretary C. Rajeswara Rao has sent warmest greetings to the Workers' Party of Korea on the occasion of its Sixth Congress, which will be held in Pyongyang from 10 to 14 October. CPI Central Executive Committee member M. Farooqi is attending the Congress as a fraternal delegate. The Congress synchronises with the thirty-fifth anniversary of formation of the Workers' Party. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Oct 80 p 7]

**MUSLIM UNITY TALKS**--Calicut, Oct. 5. Unity between the two Muslim League parties--Indian Union Muslim League and the All India Muslim League--would be a "reality in the near future" according to indications at the end of the first round of unity talks between leaders of the two parties here today. The leaders of the two parties authorised to conduct 'unity talks' met for the first time since the break of the party six years ago, at the 'Guest House' here today. At the end of the two hour talks, the leaders said "there was unanimity" among them on the issue that "there was need for unity". The next round of talks will be held on October 17, they added. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Oct 80 p 9]

**HARYANA BYELECTIONS**--Chandigarh, Oct 3 (PTI)--The by-election to the three Haryana Assembly constituencies of Ateli Bhattu Kalan and Beri in Mohindergarh, Hissar and Rohtak districts respectively would be held on 23 November. According to this the State Chief Electoral Officer said here today the counting of votes would begin the next day and results announced by evening. The seats had fallen vacant consequent upon the respective election of Rao Birendra Singh, Union Agriculture Minister and Devi Lal former Chief Minister to the Lok Sabha and the resignation by Brig Ran Singh former Agriculture Minister on joining the Congress-I. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Oct 80 p 10]

LIQUID PROPULSION CENTER--Nagercoil, Oct. 3. Survey work is on at a 4,000-hectare site in the Mahendragiri hills, 12 km. from here, for the liquid propulsion centre that has been approved by the Union Government. The Rs. 50-crore project on the Kanyakumari-unelveli districts border, would develop liquid fuels that are considered vital for India's space programme. Survey officials from the two districts and officials of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre are engaged in the survey work.--PTI. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 4 Oct 80 p 6]

INDIANS IN IRAQ--New Delhi, Oct. 3. The Engineering Projects (India) Limited, a public sector undertaking executing six major projects worth about Rs 200 crores in Iraq, has decided to evacuate about 1,500 of its workers, who want to return home. An EPI spokesman said today that the workers were being evacuated in arrangement with the External Affairs Ministry. He said there were about 6,000 EPI employees in Iraq, including the workers and administrative staff. Only those who had opted to come back in view of the escalating Iran-Iraq war, were being recalled, he added. He claimed that work on all the six projects was going on smoothly. [Excerpt] [Madras THE HINDU in English 4 Oct 80 p 9]

MISSIONARY WITHDRAWALS FROM TRIBAL AREAS--The West Bengal Government has advised foreign missionaries and social welfare organisations not to take up any new programme in tribal belt of Midnapore Purulia and Bankura districts reports PTI. The organisations have also been told to be ready to withdraw completely from these areas as soon as the State government has made arrangements for taking over the institutions set up by them. Stating this in reply to a question by Mr Mundar Sharma and Harikrishna Shastri in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday Minister of State for Home Affairs Yogendra Makwana said the State Government had earlier reported that some missionaries had been adding the separate Jharkhand movement by organising the tribals to agitate on local issues. Mr Makwana said according to the Tripura Government some missionary organisations were suspected to have given encouragement to extremist tribal elements. Allegations of a general nature had also been made elsewhere from time to time but there was no specific complaint. He said there had also been no recent report of any activity of the Moral Rearmament Army (MRA). The Government was however keeping a watch over the situation. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Aug 80 p 5]

FREEDOM FIGHTER DIES--Bhubaneswar, Oct. 7.--Mr Banamali Patnaik, a freedom fighter and former president of the Utkal Pradesh Congress Committee, died after a heart attack at his residence here early today, reports PTI. He was 58 and is survived by his wife four daughters and a son. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 8 Oct 80 p 1]

JHARIA COAL PROJECT--Work has begun of the Pootkee Balihari integrated coal project the first large underground mine planned as part of the scheme to reconstruct the entire Jharia coalfield region, according to a Press Note issued by Bharat Coking Coal. The project encompasses four existing mines--Pootkee, South Loyabad, Balihari and Bhagaband--and part of three other mines--Kankene, Jogta and Gopalichur. The project is designed to produce three million tonnes of prime coking coal a year. The latest mining technology will be used for development of the mines at an estimated investment of Rs 140 crores. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 8 Oct 80 p 3]

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CHALID, USEP COMMENT ON POLITICAL SCENE

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 3 Sep 80 p 12

[Article: "Chalid Mawardi Comments on Current Politics, Saying it Is Like Flowers in a Pot; Usep Says Not All Are Participating"]

[Excerpts] The country's politics at present are like flowers in a pot as all political forces are grouped together because of various restrictions. They can grow but they may not leave the pot. As a result, they no longer compete.

This opinion was expressed on Tuesday afternoon [2 August] by Drs Chalid Mawardi of the United Development Party (PPP) in a panel discussion having as its theme, "Democracy in Indonesia After 35 Years of Independence." On that occasion Chalid appeared with Prof Usep Ranawidjaja of the PDI (Indonesian Democratic Party) while the committee said no GOLKAR [Functional Group] representative appeared.

Chalid Mawardi did not agree with what the president said in his 16 September speech when he only noted the various evils of the democratic systems we have employed. According to Chalid, liberal democracy has advantages aside from the weaknesses resulting from frequent change of administration. The liberal democracy practiced from 1950 to 1957 at least encouraged the citizens to express their opinions freely.

Under this type of democracy, Chalid said, people dared to hold to their aspirations and the administration could operate openly. Actually some good also resulted from guided democracy, under which politics leaned to the left, because patriotism and nationalism were aroused. Also competition among political parties still prevailed under this system.

Pancasila democracy, under which we operate now, according to Chalid, of course maintains administrative stability although its weakness lies in a poor control mechanism and all political forces are "flowers in a pot." Another indicator is the omnipresent security element which causes frequent conflicts over human rights.

What system is best? Chalid noted that these three forms of democracy possibly could be combined. With such a combination, administrative stability would be guaranteed, citizens' freedoms would be maintained, and patriotism and even nationalism would be aroused.

"But the best system would be a democracy without any qualifiers," he said.

Speaking about the present democratic system in connection with the New Order strategy, Prof Usep Ranawidjaja believes that in the course of events to date not all who played a role in establishing the New Order could contribute to the implementation of the 1945 Constitution and Pancasila.

"Clearly only one group now governs the people and country," he said.

Usep judged the New Order strategy as moving increasingly from the initial goal. He admitted that the New Order had successfully handled two general elections but it was short on carrying them out in line with Pancasila principles. There were no secret [ballots] nor freedom for the people to select their own representatives in the elections. Usep explained that we have not as yet found our most suitable form of democracy.

In a question and answer period on the coming general election, both Usep and Chalid rejected the proposal to establish a district system for carrying out the election. Chalid believes that such a system would provide opportunity only to those who have money or power.

Usep said the district system would tend to become a two-party system where we now have a proportional system plus dual-function ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces]. Ordinarily this proportional system tends to become a multiparty system, but we are kept from having a multiparty system since ABRI plays a role.

Regarding the results of the coming general election, Usep judges that they will be the same as those in earlier elections if the political scene persists.

Responding to a question, Chalid admitted that there are "prostitution elements" in the party organizations, but he rejected the notion that there might be differences in the political stance of NU [Nahdatul Ulama] and other groups in the PPP. He even rejected the idea that the party would not participate in the coming election. "If it does not participate, the prostitution elements will profit and that means the entire PPP is Prostituted," he remarked.

Meanwhile Usep, who was questioned about the loss of the Marhaenists from the game, merely replied that the political scene did not offer the Marhaenists an opportunity to rebuild.

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## AIR FORCE TO COMMISSION COMBAT SQUADRONS

### Aircraft Procurement

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesia 3 Sep 80 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] On occasion of the forthcoming Armed Forces Day on 5 October, General M. Jusuf plans to commission two combat squadrons in order to strengthen the launching power of the Indonesian Air Force. They are Squadron 11 which represents a bomber combat squadron and Squadron 14 as a pursuit-ambush combat squadron.

Besides the two combat squadrons, Minister Jusuf told the press Tuesday while inspecting the preparedness of the said squadrons at the Iswahjudi military air base in Madiun, the Air Force would be further strengthened with a training squadron of the Hawk type owned only by Britain and some other NATO nations. This plane may also be used to give aid to air combat in short-distance military operations.

Sometime during this year, five new military-version Hercules with long body are expected to arrive in Indonesia to strengthen and intensify the transport capacity of the Air Force. Each Hercules is capable of transporting 140 people.

### Trainers Arrive

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 10 Sep 80 p 3

[Excerpts] Two advanced-training planes of the Siddeley Hawk ground attack version, belonging to the Indonesian Air Force, arrived in Indonesia yesterday.

The two Siddeley Hawk planes, manufactured by the British Aerospace in England, landed at the Halim Perdanakusuma military air base in Jakarta as escorts to a batch of aircraft ordered by the Indonesian Air Force from the same manufacturers. The two trainers, ferried from England, took 8 days to land in Indonesia.

The said British Aerospace Hawk planes represent advanced trainers which can be equipped with bombs and rockets to attack ground targets. Later, they will be placed at the disposal of 1st Training Wing of the Aviation Academy at the Adisutjipto military air base, Yogyakarta to replace the old L-29 Dolphin advanced trainers which have been used to train aviation cadets of the Armed Forces for 20 years.

Furthermore, the Air Force has sent four pilots, namely Flight Major Mahpudin Taka, Flight Captains Tengku Syahrial, Watimena and Abdullah to England to be trained at Dunsfold together with other technicians and ground crew members, all of whom will fulfill their duties as instructors in Indonesia in due course.



## INDONESIA

### POOR WORKING CONDITIONS AT WEST JAVA TEXTILE PLANT

#### Workers Complain

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 1 Sep 80 pp 1, 9

[Excerpts] Ever Shinetex Limited Company (PT ESTI), located in Ciluar, Bogor County, is indeed obstinate. This textile plant has been warned by the House Commission VI and the director general of the "Cultivation of Labor Relations and Protection of Manpower (Binalindung)" to improve its working conditions forthwith, instead of treating its workers at will. It turns out that the company's management continues to ignore the warnings of the central government apparatus, and has even adopted more stringent measures against labor.

These strongly-worded remarks were made by the general chairman of All-Indonesia Workers Federation (FBSI), Agus Sudono, before 150 workers of PT ESTI at the FBSI's headquarters last Saturday.

Bardi Syamsudin, site chairman of the local Food and Textile Workers Union (SBTS-FBSI), reported that working conditions in PT ESTI were bad, although this textile plant with a work force of about 2,000 holds the status of "joint venture" between Indonesian and Taiwan private entrepreneurs.

According to Bardi Syamsudin, conditions in the production hall of PT ESTI are swampy. The water flooding the floor is mixed with human excrement which has overflowed from the lavatory, and it has never been cleaned up. Worse still, although this sole lavatory is unusable, workers who wish to relieve themselves are not permitted to go out of the factory. So they have to endure this urgency until break time.

The plant management does not provide clean drinking water for the workers, either. In the past, the available drinking water smelled of engine oil. Lately, only water dripping from boilers is made available for the workers. To drink this kind of water, they are compelled to use discarded plastic bags used to wrap yarns with beforehand, because the management makes available one cup only.

Workers in the laboratory are not supplied face masks and uniforms, while their health conditions are never checked. They suffer lacerations on the hands, because the factory-supplied rubber gloves can be penetrated by strong and dangerous chemical acids.

Bardi Syamsudin continued to say that workers in the thread-spooling section are not provided with head covers in order to prevent accidents. This could be very dangerous.

For example, an accident occurred again in the same section on 17 June, during which the hair of a female worker was caught in the machine, resulting in a part of her head skin being peeled off.

A similar accident also took place in the weaving section. The victim was also a woman named Mur. Because the floor was muddy and slippery, this worker slipped and her dress was caught in the teeth of the weaving machine, leaving her nearly stark naked.

Subsequently, on 10 July, about 2230 hours, PT ESTI's thread-dyeing kettle exploded. As a result, two workers were seriously injured with scalding water splashing from the explosion.

A similar explosion took place again on 19 August, resulting in a worker on duty there being seriously hurt.

Workers in the darning section are required to work from 0630 till 1600 hours. The wage scale in this section is only 4,775 rupiahs per week. On Sundays, they are obliged to work overtime for 5 hours.

It is a fact that up till now the management has not paid the overtime money to the workers concerned. On the contrary, if they want to carry out the obligatory overtime work on Sundays, their wage is deducted 250 rupiahs per person per week. As a matter of fact, the majority of the workers are daily laborers in status. They do not receive work uniforms, food and transportation allowances, bonuses and the like.

Bardi Syamsudin added that PT ESTI still employs about 180 child laborers. These minor laborers, ranging from 10 to 13 years in age, are treated as adult workers.

Whenever government officials or some authorities pay a visit to PT ESTI for inspection, the child laborers are hidden away in a warehouse. Even Utojo Usman, the director general of Binalindung was hoodwinked by the management of the textile plant on the afternoon of 22 July, as all child laborers were ordered to go home one hour ahead of Mr Usman's inspection time.

Reacting to the restless mood of the workers, Agus Sudono said that the FBSI and the central leadership of SBTS, as well as other related parties, would form a combined team forthwith to make a thorough investigation of the situation at PT ESTI. Furthermore, the findings of the said team will be submitted to the proper authorities to be utilized as a basis for a policy or legal action to be taken, if deemed necessary.

Utojo Usman, director general of Binalindung, told this newspaper Sunday that his office has previously suggested to PT ESTI's management to improve working conditions in the enterprise. The management reportedly said that it had begun implementing the suggestions, including the setting up of a canteen and a polyclinic for the work force.

In the wake of the workers' report received by the FBSI last Saturday, the directorate general of Binalindung will make another inspection at the textile plant as soon as possible. If proven true that the management is treating its workers more arbitrarily than before, the director general of this government agency will take strict measures.

#### FBSI Task Force

Jakarta KOMPAS 2 Sep 80 p 2

[Excerpts] The case of textile industry laborers is not confined to Ever Shinetex Limited Company (PT ESTI) only, but has also occurred in Putra Sejati, YKK and Daralon limited companies, all of which are located in Bogor County. Consequently, the All-Indonesia Workers Federation (FBSI) will set up a task force to resolve urgent and pressing matters in the food and textile sector.

Thus said Agus Sudono, general chairman of the FBSI, in an interview with this newspaper last Monday.

Agus Sudono stressed that a task force on a national level ought to be formed, composed of all parties concerned, including the FBSI, Department of Manpower and Transmigration, technical and entrepreneurial agencies, as well as Kopkamtib (Command for the Restoration of Security and Order). The inclusion of the last-named body is specifically to handle excessive interference by apparatus of public security and order, such as the police, military precinct command and military district command. In this manner, each labor dispute can be solved fairly, and neither management nor labor will again dare make trouble by taking arbitrary measures or forwarding unreasonable demands.

In fact, if the directorate general of Binalindung and the FBSI were capable of solving the issue within the shortest possible time, those labor disputes need not have taken any victim on either side, according to a source at the Department of Manpower and Transmigration. The widening gap between management and labor organizations or individual laborers need not have occurred.

Any sign of irregularities concerning the treatment of workers or the dangers of some working system or facilities can be regularly reported by labor unions to members of the task force concerned. Thereupon officials of the directorate general of Binalindung will rush to the trouble spot to check out the labor union's report. In the past, it often happened that certain unscrupulous officials tipped off the management of an impending inspection by the authorities. This resulted in the loss of confidence on the workers' part in government agencies which are supposed to protect their interests.

In the meantime, Agus Sudono admitted that there is no cooperation to speak of between the directorate general of Binalindung and various labor unions. Such cooperation ought to be fostered, so that inspection/supervision of workers' conditions in an enterprise is not made in vain.

On the other hand, the Committee for Solving Labor Disputes, both regional and national, should strengthen itself and be able to carry out its decisions, and not meekly accede to the threats of entrepreneurs.

The management of an enterprise invariably argue that they cannot collaborate with laborers who take the upper hand in a dispute. If they are compelled to carry on, they threaten to halt their operations, which would result in hundreds of other workers being out of a job. If the said committee were to decide in favor of a worker or two. Up to now such threats by the management are still tolerated by the said committee, but are not acceptable to the FBSI on the ground that such tolerance would further lower the committee's power and encourage the entrepreneurs to violate labor laws.

According to Agus Sudono, we must create a paradise in Indonesia not merely for foreign capital, but also for Indonesian workers and people, and this would be possible only if all efforts to protect the rights of laborers are earnestly carried out by the government, All-Indonesia Workers Federation and entrepreneurs.

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percent. This estimate is based on the rate of 11.44 percent for the past 8 months (January to August) and a calculated rate of only 1 percent per month for the rest of 1985.

The inflation rate registered for August, he said, was 1.19 percent. This was due to an increase of 2.16 percent in food prices and a 2.28 percent increase in clothing prices. Housing costs dropped .06 percent while other sectors rose by .38 percent. "The problem now is to hold the inflation rate to 1 percent a month. Thanks to it and if it can be lowered," Sudharmono added.

At present the rate of inflation is measured by a consumer price index (IHK) for 150 items in 17 big Indonesian cities. In August the highest prices were paid for rice in Padang, rising 2.94 percent, and in Pontianak, rising 2.87 percent.

Minister Sumarlin explained that the session also decided that in September a KEPRES (presidential instruction) will be issued concerning the control and upgrading of the implementation of Law No 2 of 1960 concerning the production-sharing agreement. This is connected with the program for creating new rice fields in government-built irrigated areas whereby farmers will be able to work the land under the production-sharing law, Sumarlin said.

"A regulation concerning the implementation of this law has already been in effect, but improvement is needed in its implementation. In essence, the decision on this law pertains to production-sharing between the farm laborers and the owners."

The share of both the farm laborer and the owner is the same for wet rice field crops, one to one, while the share for secondary crops planted in wet rice fields and crops of dry field rice are divided in the ratio of two to one in favor of the farm laborer. The law states that net production is to be shared, namely, gross production less expenses incurred, which must be borne jointly by the owner and the farm laborer.

The minister said the implementation of the production-sharing law had been less favorable to the farm laborer because he had to take care of all expenses whereas they should have been borne jointly with the rice field owner. Moreover in some parts of Central Java the farm laborer paid the owner cash in advance in order to be able to work the field.

That, he said, must be controlled through the cabinet session decision. This control is needed in order to give better protection to the farm laborer so that he actually receives his fair share after the owner's expenses are really paid by the owner. Second, when the production-sharing law is made more favorable to the farm laborer, it is expected that he will be stirred into producing more. Sumarlin remarked.

According to him, the idea of the session that if production exceeds the 5-year average in a particular region, 40 percent of the excess production must go to the farmer and 20 percent to the owner. For instance, if the average production in a particular area was 3 tons per hectare and times in 2 times per hectare, 20 percent of the 3 tons, or 600 kg, must be given the farmer, the minister said.



Regarding the creation of new wet rice fields, credit costs are to be borne by the owner. Where the owner of the land is unknown, the cost of credit will be borne by the farmer on a production-sharing basis with the designated owner after he has worked the land. Where the owner is unknown, the temporary loan guarantor is to be the Director general for food crops of the Department of Agriculture.

Control and upgrading of the implementation of the production-sharing law at the village level will be handled by the village chief assisted by a production-sharing review committee. The committee will be composed of the village chief, a secretary, the village water administrator, two owner representatives, and two farmer representatives. At the subdistrict level, control will be handled by the subdistrict head assisted by a production-sharing review committee consisting of the subdistrict head, the subdistrict agriculture official, two owner representatives, and two farmer representatives.

In addition, each village chief is responsible for organizing a register on the implementation of the production-sharing agreement in the village concerned. A report on this register is to be submitted to the subdistrict and is to be used to determine whether the decisions are being carried out well, Minister Sumarlin said.

In reply to the report of the minister of agriculture concerning the implementation of KIPRES No 39 of 1980 which regulates the shift from trawlers to nontrawlers, President Soeharto ordered all officials handling this question such as regional government, banking institution, cooperative, and fisheries officials, to implement this decision and the guidance for its implementation in the best possible way.

Cooler and refrigerated warehouse owners are to take steps as quickly as possible, paying strict heed to the time limit set so that they suffer no losses later on.

KIPRES No 46 of 1980 states that no trawlers may operate in Java or Bali waters after 1 October. For Sumatra the time limit set is 1 January 1981. Only 1,000 trawlers may operate in East Indonesian waters by 1 July 1981.

There are about 3,000 trawlers in all of Indonesia. After deducting the 1,000 trawlers that may still operate in East Indonesia, the remaining trawlers must be converted to nontrawling ships using purse-seines, gillnets, ponda, long-lines, and morambi. Entrepreneurs who are unwilling to make the conversion must turn their trawlers over to the government for later transfer to the fisheries KUB.

This government policy has created concern among trawler workers that they will lose their means of livelihood. In Central Java it is estimated that more than 22,000 workers will lose their jobs by the end of September.

Minister Sulharnomo said in his estimation the conversion of trawlers to non-trawlers actually will provide better support for the workers. Therefore, this decision must be carried out immediately. Minister of Manpower and Transmigration Soedjatmoko reported to the session that each trawler carries only seven or eight workers. A purse-seiner, for instance, can carry 25 to 30 workers. Seen from this aspect, the conversion of trawlers to nontrawlers is beneficial for equalizing job opportunities, Sulharnomo said.

Asked whether there are any guarantees of work for present workers after this trawler conversion, Sudharmono replied, "It is for this reason that trawler operators are asked to convert their ships so that they can then employ workers and possibly add to the number of workers they employ." Workers who lose their jobs because of the conversion ordered by the government will be assisted later by the EUD to operate trawlers transferred to the KUD concerned, Sudharmono said.

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## INDONESIA

### NUMBER LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL DROPS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 3 Sep 80 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Prof Sumitro Says Standard of Living for 10 Million Persons Was Raised in the Past 10 Years from Below the Poverty Level, Based on a Required 1,500 Calories Per Person Per Day"]

[Excerpts] Within the past 10 years, 10 million Indonesians advanced because of economic development. Earlier they had existed at a level below the poverty level. In 1971 there were about 60 million Indonesians living below the poverty level and in 1980, 50 million remain at that level.

This was revealed by Prof Dr Sumitro Djojohadikusumo after he had been received by President Soeharto at the Merdeka Palace on Tuesday afternoon [2 September]. As an "independent observer," he said, I meet periodically with President Soeharto to submit a "situation balance" indicating where improvements are noted and where holes in the dike must still be filled.

Sumitro explained that the criterion used to establish the poverty level in Indonesia is a required 1500 calories per person per day. This criterion was proposed at the ISEI (Indonesian Economists League) congress this year, Sumitro told KOMPAS.

In his 16 August 1976 speech, the president said only three out of 10 persons still lived below the poverty level. In 1970 the ratio was eight to 10 while in 1967, nine out of 10 Indonesians lived below the poverty level.

The president used the World Bank's poverty level criterion which was separated into urban and rural criteria. The urban criterion is [an income of] \$75 or 97,000 rupiah per person per year. The criterion for rural areas [is an income of] \$50 or about 20,000 rupiah per person per year.

Sumitro remarked that it cannot be denied that overall production increased in 1980. "One could say economic growth has been satisfactory this year," he added.

While the world experienced a recession, he said, Indonesia's annual economic growth rate was more than 7 percent. This is good compared with that for 1979, which was a rather sluggish year because of the "15 November [1978] guideline policy."

As one who claims to be an independent observer, Sumitro said along with increased rice production in 1980, Indonesian non-oil exports increased greatly. They were 40 to 50 percent higher in the first part of 1980 than they were in the same period in 1979.

As a result, Sumitro said, foreign exchange reserves rose, and Indonesia's reserves have never been as strong in 35 years. Indonesia's foreign exchange reserves now total \$6.7 billion.

The former trade minister and state minister for research also predicted that Indonesia's inflation rate this year will drop compared with the 1979 rate of 23 percent.

The distribution of these strong reserves for the greatest good of the people, Sumitro said, will depend on "how it is managed," although he did not specify the best way these reserves could be managed.

On 11 May, also after being received by President Soeharto at Cendana, Sumitro said that to make these reserves beneficial, the government must "equalize." On the one hand large projects must be carried out and on the other hand, conditions must be created to increase people's economic activities in the regions.

In order for the foreign exchange reserves to benefit the people, Sumitro said, priority allocation is to be given to activities in producing regions and to the more isolated regions, for example, to institutional improvement of archipelago and coastal navigation because Indonesia is a nation of islands.

With regard to the distribution of foreign exchange reserves, Sumitro mentioned electric power stations (particularly those in villages), diking tertiary irrigation channels, regional planning, and development of various mineral resources.

On Tuesday Sumitro was also questioned about the handling of job opportunities outside the agricultural field, something which has not been fully taken care of to date. Another was the urgent population problem.

Also needing attention are the 10 million Indonesians who still have no clean water resources. This affects their health, particularly that of children, and the environment in housing areas, Sumitro added.

## BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON INDONESIAN PERSONALITIES

[Unless otherwise noted, the following information on Indonesian personalities has been extracted from Indonesian language sources published in Jakarta.]

**BAMBANG SANJOTO SAPTODEWO**--The Ethiopian Socialist Government has agreed to the appointment of Bambang Sanjoto Saptodewo as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Indonesia to Ethiopia. This was stated on Thursday [14 August] by the Foreign Information Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Bambang Saptodewo is a career diplomat who has worked in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 1948. He replaces Ambassador R H S Hardojo, who has reached the end of his period of service. Born in Yogyakarta in 1925, Bambang Saptodewo began his career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a clerk in the political division. His career as a diplomat began as an attache/third secretary at the Indonesian Embassy in Brussels (1951-1955), followed by service as charge d'affaires at the Indonesian Embassy in Lisbon (1952), consul in Davao (1958-1960), first secretary in the Indonesian Embassy in Colombo (1960-1963), consul general in Paramaribo (1967-1971), and minister in the Indonesian Embassy in Kuala Lumpur (1974-1977). [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 15 Aug 80 p 12]

**R H SIRADJUDDIN ABBAS**--An Islamic leader and former minister of People's Welfare in 1954, R H Siradjuddin Abbas on Tuesday [5 August] died at the age of 75 at the Dr Tjpto Mangunkusumo Hospital. His remains were brought from his residence at Jalan Melati 28, Tebet Barat, to Tanah Kusir cemetery after prayers were said at Tebet Lepas Dzuhur Mosque. The deceased, who died of an illness of old age, left a wife, H Salimah, and two daughters, H Sofyan Siraj and Dr Fuadi Siraj. The deceased was a member of the KNIP [Central Indonesian National Committee] in Yogyakarta, was a member of parliament in Jakarta for 29 years, and wrote many religious books in Arabic and Indonesian, totalling about 20 in all. The last book he wrote was his autobiography and a history of Islam some 2,000 pages in length, which has not yet been published. He made the pilgrimage seven times to Mecca, together with his family, and also visited other Islamic countries. During the last 10 years he taught religion in various places, including the Tebet Lepas Dzuhur Mosque and in his own home. [Text] [Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 7 Aug 80 p 11]

**A RAFIEL A GANY**--A Hatted A Gany was born at Watansoppeng in 1944. In 1967 he completed his education at the Public Works Technical Academy in Bandung, having majored in civil engineering, and later worked in the irrigation section in the public works department of Lampung province. He is experienced in the field of research in irrigation technique and agronomy, planning, construction, and the

application and care of irrigation networks. In 1973 he took the rice production course at the International Rice Research Institute at Los Banos, in the Philippines, and later attended a training workshop in water management in irrigated agriculture at the East-West Center in Honolulu and at the Royal Irrigation Department in Thailand at the beginning of 1974. In 1978 he obtained an M S degree in irrigation engineering from the University of Southampton in England. [Excerpts] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 7, Jul 80 p 96]

BOEDIONO--Boediono was born in Jakarta on 6 June 1945. He is a member of the staff of the BPJK of the Ministry of Education and Culture. He graduated in economics from the University of Gadjah Mada in Yogyakarta (1968); graduated with an M S degree from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles (1972); and obtained a doctorate in the economics of education from the University of California at Berkeley (1979). He has attended various seminars in planning, finance, and statistics in Indonesia and overseas, including a conference on measurements and statistics at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (1974). He has written several books on planning, including "Metode Alokasi Dana" [A Method of Allocation of Funds] (1972) and "Penelitian Nasional Kualitas Pendidikan Dasar: Pengamatan Data dan Metode" [A National Review of the Quality of Basic Education: a Survey of Data and Methods] (1978). [Excerpts] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 7, Jul 80 p 96]

SOEKARTAWI--Soekartawi was born in Sidoarjo in 1947. He is an instructor at the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Brawijaya and is also deputy program manager of the East Java Study of Village Dynamics. He obtained a bachelor's degree in agriculture at the University of Brawijaya in 1974 and graduated first in his class as a Master of Science at the Bogor Agricultural Institute in 1977. He has been active in carrying out research in village and agricultural economics, seminars, and field work, both in Indonesia and abroad. He is presently preparing his Ph D program at the University of New England in Australia. [Excerpt] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 7, Jul 80 p 96]

T MITYA LUBIS--T Mitya Lubis was born in Muara Botung, North Sumatra, in 1946. He is Deputy director of Legal Assistance Society (Lembaga Bantuan Hukum), Human Rights Section. He graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Indonesia (1974) and then went on to a Master's program at the University of California at Berkeley (graduated in 1978). For 1 year he was a visiting scholar at that university. Other positions of his have included that of staff instructor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Indonesia, as well as member of the staff of the Center for the Study of Law and Economics, Jakarta. [Excerpt] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 7, Jul 80 p 96]

T SIANIPAR--T Sianipar was born on 25 November 1942 at Balige (North Tapanuli). He is an instructor at the IFPE (Institute of Teaching and Educational Science) in Jakarta. He graduated from the IKIP in Medan in 1969 and is an alumnus of the Center for Social Science Training (Pusat Latihan Ilmu-Ilmu Sosial), in Ujung Pandang (1977). He has written several articles on educational questions. [Excerpt] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 7, Jul 80 p 96]

Y H MANGKOWIDATTA--Y H Mangkowiatta was born in Ambarawa (Central Java). He is an instructor in local cultural history and construction at the Technical Faculty of the University of Gadjah Mada, an adviser to the Archbishop of Semarang, a Village Quality Observer, and a columnist for the daily newspaper KOMPAS. He graduated





Washington. In 1967, still in Washington, he was appointed minister, and in 1968 he was appointed ambassador to Belgium. In 1970 he returned to Indonesia and became director general of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1976 to 1980 he was again sent abroad as ambassador to the Soviet Union. [Excerpts] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 26 Aug 80 pp 1, 7]

COL WIYONO TJOKRODIBROTO--LTG Wiyogo, as chief of functional region I [KEWANKARWIL], Sumatra/West Kalimantan, recently received a report at his office in Medan regarding the transfer of command of the post of chief of staff of Functional Region I [Kepala Staf Kekarya-an Wilayah I] from the former occupant, BG T A Lingga, to his replacement, COL Wiyono Tjokrodibroto. BG T A Lingga, in the near future, will assume new duties as a high-ranking officer at Army Headquarters. COL Wiyono Tjokrodibroto was previously chief of staff of Military District XII/Tanjungpura in West Kalimantan. [Excerpts] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 21 Aug 80 p 6]

MG PRAPTO PRAYITNO--President Soeharto, in his Order No 91/M/80, appointed MG Prapto Prayitno Director General of the Social and Political Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, replacing Erman Harirustaman, who has been appointed Indonesian ambassador to Australia. MG Prapto Prayitno was previously Director General of General Government and Regional Autonomy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Replacing him in that function is BG Haji Achmad Adnawidjaja, who was previously chief of the Research and Development Section of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. As the new chief of the Research and Development Section, the same order appointed Dr Djamiludin Tambunan, former governor of the province of Jambi. This was stated by the chief of the Bureau of Community Relations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Dr Feisal Tamin, to the press in Jakarta on Thursday [28 August]. Erman Harirustaman was the longest serving officer in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. He began his career in the Ministry in 1969 as Chief of the Political Bureau, then as Inspector general (1971-1973), director general of General Government (1973-1975), and director general of Social and Political Affairs (1975-1979). He was governor of North Sulawesi for a time in 1979. [Excerpts] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 29 Aug 80 p 2]

COL H SOETRAN--In his Order No 102/M/80 President Soeharto appointed COL H Soetran as governor of the province of Irian Jaya, with the task of carrying out the process of candidacy and election of the definitive governor of Irian Jaya. H Soetran was inaugurated as governor of Irian Jaya on 12 August 1975 and concluded his service in that capacity on 12 August 1980. He was later appointed acting governor of Irian Jaya in Presidential Order 102/M/80, dated 18 August 1980. [Excerpts] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 29 Aug 80 p 2]

## INDONESIA

### BRIEFS

**SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS ENDED**--Vaccination of Indonesians for smallpox ended as of 4 August 1980 except for those individuals going to or stopping off in Chad, Djibouti, Kampuchea, and Madagascar where such vaccination is still required. Dr Adhyatma, director general of P3M (prevention and control of contagious diseases) of the Department of Health, said there is a greater risk of developing complications from the vaccination than there is of contracting the disease. The P3M director general explained that smallpox vaccination was ended in Indonesia because of the decision taken at a WHO meeting in Geneva in May 1980. A statement was issued at that meeting to the effect that the world was smallpox free after Somalia and Ethiopia finally declared free of the disease. However, the decision to end such vaccination was left to individual countries. Actually no one with smallpox has been encountered in Indonesia since 1972. However, Indonesia was not proclaimed free of the disease until 25 April 1974 after it had met the prerequisite that no case of smallpox develop for 2 consecutive years. Now that smallpox has been eradicated from Indonesia, it is expected that laws will meet the same fate within the next 10 years, the P3M director general said. Efforts are now being made to control the disease. Funds expended during the period 1968 to 1972 to free Indonesia from smallpox totaled about 800 million Rp plus \$1.2 million in foreign aid, excluding the cost of facilities such as vehicles and various other expenditures. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 Sep 80 pp 1, 9] 6804

**LIVESTOCK SITUATION IS CRITICAL**--The situation for the big-horned cattle, cows and caribou, is critical. Around 1976, the population numbered over 10 million while it is now estimated at less than 6 million. Therefore, Indonesia is forced to stop exporting livestock. Furthermore, the situation is problematical for domestic consumption so meat prices are high. This was stated by Brata Winata, general chairman and manager of the central PPSI (Indonesian Cattle Breeders Association) on Friday (29 August). He said 70 percent of the big livestock in Indonesia is found on Java Island which constitutes 6 percent of the Indonesian land area, and most of this livestock is found in East Java. This drop in population must be stopped, mainly by preventing the slaughter of pregnant productive cows which, according to the Animal Husbandry Directorate General, constitute 41 percent of the cows slaughtered although the veterinary law prohibits this. Brata Winata invited all cattle breeders to become self-sufficient in milk. He estimated that the 75,000 milk cows in Java could be raised to 500,000 in 15 years if we bred cattle well and were also supported by a favorable price for milk. With the increased population, our milk production, which in 1978 amounted to only 2.2 liters per capita, could be raised to 2.8 liters per capita. In Malang, Drs Susanto Hariasmoro, the assistant to the East Java governor, also confirmed that the drop

in cattle population was due to the slaughter of still productive cattle and to the sale of working cattle. He said the agriculture minister had decided on a policy whereby strict measures would be taken against officials who authorized the slaughter of productive cattle. Detailed instructions on this policy will be issued in the near future. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 3 Sep 80 p 8]  
6804

CSO: 4213

## BANKS TO MARK UP IMPORTS UNDER INTEREST-FREE PLAN

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 16 Oct 80 p 1

[Text]

**RECORDER REPORT**

Under the interest-free banking system, the goods imported by the banks' clients will be released to the importers after a mark-up in the value of the goods and commodities imported, to cover the banks' expenses and margin of profit or what may be called commission.

BUSINESS RECORDER understands that the Council of Islamic Ideology has approved the 'mark-up procedure' as not un-Islamic even though the profit margin or commission will be fixed prior to the import of the goods and irrespective of the fact whether the end-importer makes profit or loss.

However, this point is under active discussion between the committee over which State Bank Governor, A. G. N. Kazim presides, the nationalised banks and the Banking Council.

It is further learnt that the banks are pressing for the mark-up system to safeguard their profitability which would otherwise be jeopardized.

The supporters of the 'mark-up system' present the analogy of the working of the Islamic Bank, while those who consider that any profit or return irrespective of the profit and loss of the end importer would be against the spirit of the interest-free concept as interpreted by Islamic scholars (Ulama).

They further point out that under the proposed 'mark-up' system the nationalised banks will be performing the functions almost similar to those of the Trading Corporation of Pakistan and the end result of that would be large scale State sector trading and gradual shrinkage of the private sector whose role will become confined to the retailing trade or at best wholesale or distributorship.

GAS BECOMES MAIN SOURCE OF ENERGY

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 16 Oct 80 p 4

[Text] Lahore, Oct. 15: Natural gas has once again overtaken oil as the main source of energy supply in Pakistan, it is learnt.

Statistics collected recently indicate that gas is now meeting 38.1 per cent of the energy needs of Pakistan as against 37.9 per cent by oil.

Apart from current four fields which produce eight million cubic feet of gas every day, nine more gas fields are lying dormant awaiting market development. These are Zin, Uch, Khairpur, Kandhkot, Mazarani, Kothar, Dhodak, Pir Koh and Radho.

The recoverable reserves at the first time are estimated at 4.1 trillion cubic feet. The reserves of the last four have not been published but at least two of them, Pir Koh and Dhodak, are believed to be big. Their reserves may well be in the region of ten trillion cubic feet.

The original reserves in the fields on production are estimated at 12.64 trillion cubic feet.

In terms of furnace oil equivalent Pakistan's total gas reserves may well be in the region of 486 million tonnes.--APP.



# NEW WHEAT PRICES MAY SLOW FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 19 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, Oct. 28: A number of delegates to the cultivators convention, which concluded here on Thursday, have left behind oblique hints that should the government treat their demand for raise in wheat price in political terms, the recently acquired autarky in this sector may not last long.

The government is expected to announce the new wheat prices soon because the sowing of this crop has already started in Sind and is about to begin in the Punjab, and whatever incentive the government has to offer should be announced now. The current price is Rs. 46.75 per maund.

The cultivators, however, expect at least Rs. 60 per maund as the new price provided the recent raise in fertiliser prices is withdrawn.

In the convention a panel, to recommend the new price after "carefully" evaluating different factors which make up the cost price, pointed out that wheat production costs Rs. 65 in the Punjab, Rs. 58 in NWFP and Rs. 52 in Sind.

Former Foreign Minister, Arshad Hussain, who represented the cultivators' point of view had said that if the price proposed by the cultivators was not accepted the use of fertiliser, which is already declining would fall further. This will adversely affect the average output, and it is apprehended that "God forbid, we may not turn to the deficit", he cautioned.

The cultivators expressed their dismay over Khwaja Safdar's compromise formula that new price should be fixed at Rs. 55 over 40 kilos and the raise in fertilisers price should be withdrawn.

Khwaja Safdar had said that no doubt the reduction in fertilisers' price would cost the government Rs. 1250 million but this amount, he said, could be covered for from Rs. 2600 million provided in the budget. He further said this might be against Pakistan's international agreements but there was money within the present budget to take back the fertiliser price hike.

The cultivators were, however, of the view that the government was more keen on appeasing the urban population which "already enjoys the best of everything", than looking after the interests of 70 per cent people living in villages.

They said that the raise proposed by them does not cost a city dweller more than a "cinema ticket or a pair of socks" but it would make a big difference to people in villages.

They also claimed that the reduction in the fertilisers' price would provide the much needed relief to small farmers because they had nothing to offer in sale and the rebate in the inputs prices would be the only help to them.

CSO: 4220

COTTON OUTPUT LIKELY TO EXCEED TARGET

Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 15 Oct 80 p 4

[Text] Lahore, Oct. 14. The Cotton Crop situation both in the Punjab and Sind is reported to be quite good and full of promises for achieving the production target of 4 million bales.

The target areas for the sowing of the Crop having rather exceeded in Sind the sown area has increased by 6.5 per cent and in the Punjab more than a half per cent over the target figures.

Strict vigilance is being exercised to keep close watch on pest situation.

Meanwhile, procurement of wheat and rice is in progress. The total procurement of wheat by the Provincial Government up to the end of August was over the Million 931 Thousand Tons as against a little over 2 Million 318 thousand tons during the corresponding period of the last year.

The procurement of Basmati Rice upto the end of August in the Punjab stood at over 3,82,400 ton exceeding the target by over 30,400 Tons. In Sind, it will over 5,91,000 tons of Rice was procured against existing target by over 41,000 Tons.

CSO: 4220

## PAKISTAN

### BRIEFS

FRG AID TO RAILWAY--Lahore, Oct. 14. West Germany has agreed in principle to provide foreign exchange and equipment for Pakistan Railway's extension project of electric traction from Khanewal to Samasatta. A spokesman of the Pakistan Railway told APP today that a high powered German delegation was currently in Pakistan to finalise the details. The accord may be signed after the project has been approved by the ECNEC. According to the revised estimates, the extension project covering an area of 118 km would cost a total sum of Rs. 357 million including a foreign exchange component equal to Rs. 1.2 million--APP. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 13 Oct 80 p 4]

CSO: 4220

SMALL FARMERS URGED TO SUE CARABAO AS ENERGY SAVING MEASURE

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 23 Oct 80 p 6

[Text] President Marcos ordered yesterday the conservation of carabaos and other working animals to keep their number from further decimation.

Under Executive Order No. 626, the President prohibited the slaughter of carabaos and buffalo less than seven years old, if male, and less than 11 years old, if female.

This new order amends Executive Order No. 234, which allows the slaughter of similar animals that are three years old or over.

The President noted that present conditions demand that the working animals be conserved for the benefit of the small farmers who rely on them in tilling the soil.

The President's action follows his order Tuesday banning the transfer of carabaos from one province to another to prevent their slaughter in increasing numbers in Metro Manila.

The President launched the "Kalabaw ng Barangay" project Tuesday at ceremonies in Malacanang marking the eighth anniversary of his proclamation of land reform.

Under Executive Order 626, the President also said that no slaughter will be allowed without a certificate by the provincial or city veterinarian, or the authorized representative of either to the effect that the carabao or buffalo to be slaughtered is of the required age and free from any disease.

The President stressed the advantages for the small farmers of the return to the use of work animals in view of the high cost of tractors and fuel needed to run them.

CSO: 4220

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November 25, 1980

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